Daily Report

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Further on Pact Foreign Ministers' Meeting

USSR's Loginov Addresses Press

AU301514 Sofia BTA in English
1445 GMT 30 Mar 88

["Warsaw Treaty: No to Confrontation, Yes to Cooperation"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March 30 (BTA)—The policy of the Warsaw Treaty member states reveals new prospects for stepping up progress on the road to complete disarmament. Their attitude to the international problems is constructive and not confrontational.

At a press conference attended by Mr Ivan Ganev, deputy minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, by Mr Vadim Loginov, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and by Mr Istvan Joszi, deputy minister of foreign affairs of Hungary, which was held here today in connection with the regular session of the Foreign Ministers Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states, it was pointed out that the main task of the session was to find the most direct road to making the process of actual disarmament irreversible and progressive.

The deputy ministers see the new in the present session of the committee in its clearly expressed realism and in its businesslike approach to the issues of restricting and limiting the armed forces and the conventional weapons from the Atlantic to the Urals. The Warsaw Treaty proposes to make public and to exchange data on the structure, the power and the position of all armed forces and conventional weapons according to geographical regions as well as according to separate countries which would stop the speculations of those who do not intend to disarm.

The proposal to start negotiations on the elimination of all tactical nuclear weapons in Europe and the striving to extend the confidence- and security-building measures to the air and naval forces of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries is also new. The foreign ministers of the allied states declared themselves not only for the further development of the confidence- and security-building measures elaborated by the Stockholm conference and for their application in respect to the neighbouring regions, but also for the working out and adoption of qualitatively new measures for security and confidence in Europe.

Mr Vadim Loginov pointed out that the Soviet Union is hopeful about the chances of signing a treaty on a 50-percent reduction of strategic offensive arms in the conditions of a continued observance of the ABM Treaty the way it was signed in 1972 and a nonwithdrawal from it for a specified period of time. There are no technical obstacles and, provided the good will is there, the treaty can be ready for signing by the time President Reagan visits Moscow, the deputy minister said.

In answer to a question it was specified that the observance of the ABM Treaty does not rule out theoretical and practical developments of weapons systems in laboratory conditions. The point is that components or entire weapons systems should not be deployed in outer space.

In connection with the situation relating to Afghanistan, an emphasis was laid on the artificial obstacles which Pakistan raises at its proximity talks with Afghanistan in Geneva and more specifically on the absurd suggestions for a linkage between the timetable for the withdrawal of the limited Soviet troop contingent from Afghanistan with the formation of an interim government in Afghanistan as a precondition. Back in January last year, President Najibullah of Afghanistan suggested to the opposition forces and the Afghans in exile to join in the negotiations about the formation of such a government.

At the press conference, the Warsaw Treaty countries reaffirmed their commitment to turning the Mediterranean into a zone of peace and cooperation and their full support for the initiatives to this end advanced by the Soviet party leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev.

Zhivkov Hosts Luncheon

AU301803 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian
1730 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Excerpts] In the Boyana Residence in Sofia today, Comrade Todor Zhivkov received the foreign ministers of the Warsaw Pact member states. [passage omitted]

Comrade Todor Zhivkov gave a luncheon in honor of the foreign ministers of the Warsaw Pact member states, which was attended by Comrades Milko Balev and Dimitur Stanishev.

RCP's Totu Meets With Zhivkov

AU301901 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1837 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Sofia, AGERPRES, 30/3/1988—The general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu, sent a cordial message of friendship to the general secretary of the CC of the Bulgarian Communist Party, president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Todor Zhivkov, as well as wishes of good health and happiness, of ever greater successes to the Bulgarian people in building the developed socialist society.

Thanking, Todor Zhivkov requested that Nicolae Ceausescu be conveyed a warm friendly message as well as best wishes of good health, happiness and prosperity to the Romanian people, of new and important successes in building the multilaterally developed socialist society.

The messages were exchanged during the call on Todor Zhivkov by Ioan Totu, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, minister

of foreign affairs, and by the other ministers that attended the meeting of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Treaty participating states.

CSSR's Chnoupek Interviewed on Meeting

LD301952 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek left Sofia today. He attended a session of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Pact states. Before his departure he gave an interview to CTK and RUDE PRAVO correspondents. In it he said that he is leaving the committee session in Sofia with deep satisfaction and with exceptionally good feelings. He stressed that the reception by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, and the 2-day intensive and mutually enriching talks confirmed the totally identical views on a whole complex of the most important and topical international issues.

The thorough and traditionally topical information supplied by USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in his recent talks in Washington played an important part at the talks. This is connected with the fact, Comrade Chnoupek said, that Soviet-U.S. relations are, because of the particular importance of the two countries in deepening peace and security in the world, an important if not decisive factor for the development of the entire international situation and our conclusions that proceed from it.

The participants in the session noted that in the relatively short period since the last session in Prague further details have been added to the picture of positive trends of international life, and they are pointing in the direction that we wish them to—that is, toward a world without nuclear arms and without violence, towards a world of peace and cooperation. Prerequisites for this trend, which still does not have the pace that we would wish, have been created by the historic signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Soviet and U.S. Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. Confidence has been expressed that this first disarmament act in our entire postwar history will not remain a mere starting point on the path of the disarmament process but that this advance will be irreversible and steady, Bohuslav Chnoupek said.

He then spoke about the recent positive trends, which are the results of initiatives and new approaches and are a growing demonstration of realism among our partners and of the support of the entire world community. They have created conditions for a further—in fact, a decisive—disarmament step, the signing of a treaty on the 50-percent reduction of Soviet and U.S. strategic offensive weapons while observing the ABM Treaty.

It is a categorical order of the day, Boshulav Chnoupek said, continuing his interview for CTK and RUDE PRAVO correspondents, to further strengthen these positive trends, to make an all-round effort to resist the attempts at so-called compensation for the elimination of nuclear arms system, to continue to put forward initiatives, and not to allow a break in the disarmament process.

In this context the latest Czechoslovak initiative for the creation of a zone of trust, cooperation, and good-neighborly relations on the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact and NATO states is also of exceptional importance.

Bohuslav Chnoupek said that our allies support it fully, while also stressing its comprehensive character, its global dimension, and its full harmony with proposals submitted by fraternal countries. The growth of positive trends since the Washington meeting, particularly in the political sphere, is typified not only by the latest meeting between the defense ministers of the Soviet Union and the United States but also the broad engaging of peace organizations in the peace-creating process.

At their important meeting, the foreign ministers—uniquely in the history of the Warsaw Pact and NATO—received a representative delegation of the women's movement in the NATO and Warsaw Pact states, led by the wife of the Greek prime minister, Mrs Papandreou, Bohuslav Chnoupek said.

The wide-ranging and rich discussion with the women's representatives confirmed that mankind has no greater ideal than that of peace, and it was on this supreme ideal of socialism and mankind as a whole, he stressed, that the two documents that were adopted were based. The communique pointed out the issues in the forefront of our attention and the whole complex of the problem which has such a significant influence on East-West relations. The second document—the appeal to the NATO countries and all the CSCE states—sets out our priorities in the sphere of disarmament in the light of current developments.

Bohuslav Chnoupek voiced the hope that our partners would respond to this appeal. He went on to state that our attention continues to focus on the problem of reducing the level of armed forces and conventional weapons from the Atlantic to the Urals and the issue of the other so-called two baskets, which is closely connected with it and is being discussed at the Vienna follow-up meeting.

The participants in the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Commission voiced the conviction that the Vienna follow-up conference is now on the verge of far-reaching decisions that could in the very near future influence East-West relations and also have an influence on other continents. Naturally, we did not look at the world only

through the narrow prism of our European home, Bohuslav Chnoupek stated. We see this process as part of global developments. That is why we expressed our opinion on such serious issues as East-West relations, the problem of a comprehensive system of international peace and security, and on setting up such a system, and the forthcoming third special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament and regional conflicts.

The commission also drew attention to the growing reputation of the policy of national reconciliation in other parts of the world. All these difficult tasks and objectives, including in the context of the current aspects of restructuring being carried out in the socialist countries, present us with new imperatives, in which an important place continues to be occupied by further enhancing the effectiveness of our collaboration within the Warsaw Pact and by coordinating joint steps in the international arena, Bohuslav Chnoupek stressed in an interview with CTK and RUDE PRAVO correspondents before his departure by air from the foreign ministers session in Sofia.

Chnoupek Departs Sofia

LD301546 Prague CTK in English
1441 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Sofia March 30 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek today left Sofia, where he attended a session of the Foreign Ministers Committee of the Warsaw Treaty.

He was seen off at the airport by his Bulgarian counterpart Petur Mladenov.

Results of Pact Ministers Session Viewed
AU310832 Sofia BTA in English
0801 GMT 31 Mar 88

["Security, Confidence, and Cooperation"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March 31 (BTA Commentator Veselin Yankov)—The 16th Session of the Committee of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the states parties to the Warsaw Treaty, held in Sofia, came at an exceedingly important time in the development of socialism and of international relations. The processes of restructuring and renewal, intended to perfect the entire social system, which are unfolding in the USSR and in other socialist countries, are of immense importance for the destinies of the socialist system, of all mankind. We can witness new political thinking winning increasing support and yielding its first practical results. That is why the foremost priority of the Sofia session, which passed in a business-like and democratic atmosphere and in full mutual understanding, was to find the most direct route to make the process of actual disarmament, which has already begun, irreversible and progressive. The meeting reaffirmed the socialist countries' active political role in international life, their willingness for interaction in solving the key issues of world politics.

During their discussions, which totalled more than fourteen hours, the foreign ministers considered the processes and phenomena in international politics and singled out the positive and the negative factors that influence them. They released a communique and an appeal to the NATO member states, to all participating states in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, in which they analysed accurately the situation in Europe and the world. In these documents the Warsaw Treaty member states set out their views on the further building of security, confidence and cooperation. The documents invite all countries, irrespective of their politico-military orientation, all European nations to take joint practical action for cooperation and for building an "all-European house" free of suspicion and fears.

One new point characteristic of the session's proceedings was the proposal for an early release and exchange of data on the structure, strength and disposition of armed forces and conventional armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals. It is suggested to start negotiations on the reduction and ensuing elimination of tactical nuclear weapons in Europe. The Warsaw Treaty further stresses the need for confidence- and security-building measures to be extended to the two politico-military alliances' air and naval forces.

In the Bulgarian capital, the ministers paid special attention to the conclusion of a Soviet-American treaty on a 50-percent reduction of strategic offensive arms. The hope was also expressed that the existing Soviet-American treaties on the limitation of nuclear tests will soon enter into force as a first step toward a comprehensive nuclear test ban.

The results of the Sofia session and the documents adopted do not only live up to the stringent requirements set by the new political realities to the socialist countries' coordinated foreign policy. They also provide a sound foundation for the socialist community's future diplomatic activity on the international scene. The key issues of our time: disarmament, security, confidence and cooperation, will continue to be central to the political dialogue with all European countries.

Mladenov Interview on Pact Ministers Session
AU310844 Sofia BTA in English
0818 GMT 31 Mar 88

["Major Contribution to the Cause of Peace"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March 31 (BTA)—It is too early to assess the implications for the promotion of the Helsinki process, for peace and security building in Europe and the world of the appeal to the NATO member states, to all participating states in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, adopted at the Sofia session of the Warsaw Treaty Foreign Ministers Committee, says Mr Petur Mladenov, Politburo member of the CC of the BCP and minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria. What is already clear, however, is that the appeal will influence favorably both European and world affairs.

Interviewed for RABOTNICHESKO DELO, Mr Petur Mladenov indicates that the appeal should not be regarded as a reaction to the documents released at the NATO summit in Brussels, although it provides a principled answer to a number of problems raised in them. The appeal, he emphasizes, outlines the priority tasks in the sphere of disarmament and confidence- and security-building.

Asked about the highlights of the Sofia meeting, Mr Petur Mladenov singles out the allied states' unity with the Soviet efforts to rid the world of the nuclear threat. The foremost priority of the session, he says, was to coordinate the most effective steps to translate into specific agreements our proposals on the key issues of security and disarmament.

The Bulgarian foreign minister emphasizes that the Sofia session came at a politically important and highly responsible point. The several months since the Foreign Ministers Committee previous meeting in Prague were packed with major, watershed developments, he goes on to say, and he lists among these the Soviet-American INF Treaty and the progress of the dialogue on other disarmament issues, the headway at the Vienna follow-up meeting and at the Warsaw Treaty-NATO consultations.

VOA, RFE Spread Rumors on Demonstration

AU311553 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak
28 Mar 88 p 4

["(PA)"-signed commentary in the "Note" column: "Burst Bubble of Provocation"]

[Text] According to rumors (spread on purpose over a long period), and according particularly to the wishes of such radio stations as Voice of America (VOA) and Radio Free Europe (which, to put it mildly, are not exactly well-disposed toward us) and naturally their sponsors in the background, more than 100,000 believers were to have assembled last Friday [25 March] evening in Bratislava's Hviezdoslav Square with candles for a "silent demonstration." Some 500-600 of them did come, and together with the curious and others, among them people guarding public law and order, about 2,000 people gathered in the square. Thus even the zealous propaganda of emigre circles and other "fans" of spreading tension in the socialist countries had not helped, although on this occasion they were joined (in a way we have never used for meddling in Austrian internal affairs) by the television network of neighboring Austria; in fact, on the very eve of the provocation, editor O. Hoermann spurred our citizens to directly participate in the event. However, the bubble of the provocation burst, as it did a few days ago in Prague.

Moreover, the Austrian television went to great efforts to dramatize the events in Bratislava, condemning the intervention by members of our security corps (who acted in the interest of ensuring law and order). In its program it spoke of coarseness, somehow totally forgetting both the repeated brutality of the Austrian police against nature protectors in the Hainburger Au, and the bloodshed there. Our own security corps has never used such methods.

Such acts of provocation as the one in Bratislava are organized by individuals from among illegal church structures in coordination with subversive centers abroad. This is proved by the fact that the call to prepare the event originally came from the West, and the event was publicized even before the organizers here had asked our authorities for permission to proceed. The West is striving to abuse the Catholic believers' religious sentiments for political purposes—to disrupt relations between the church and our socialist state, and the CSSR-Vatican negotiations on the development of these relations, and the solution of problems brought by life.

Permission to hold the demonstration was not, could not, be granted—it contradicts our laws. The church dignitaries, that is, the Corps of Ordinaries of the Roman Catholic and Greek Catholic Churches in the Slovak SR—took an unambiguously negative stand on it. One must not ignore the fact that its organizers include people known for their contacts with the clerical fascist regime of the Slovak state at the time of World War II, or for attempts to achieve its rehabilitation.

The regime in question was part of the Hitlerite Nazi crime machinery—its ideological concepts and practices have compromised the church and brought shame on it. A number of clergymen (headed by the regime's chieftain, priest Jozef Tiso) instigated crimes and blessed the criminals. After the Slovak National Uprising was suppressed, the clerical fascists and their Nazi patrons left behind them 200 mass graves with 4,000 dead, among them fellow believers or totally helpless children and mothers, and 60 burnt-down communities.

Did the organizers of the Friday demonstration want to piously commemorate the anniversary of the founding of that fascist state? On 24 March 1939 the clerical fascist government issued one of its first decrees—that on "detainment prisons." On this basis the very next day it set up detainment camps, in which it gradually locked up all its adversaries, all antifascist democrats without a court trial, solely on the basis of the say-so of the authorities of the clerical fascist regime. Thousands of people landed in concentration camps without a court sentence or explanation.

Let us not close our eyes to the fact that the heirs to this shameful chapter in our history are still alive, as are those who had succumbed to their intrigues and manipulations. They present their intentions as religious activity, although it has nothing in common with faith, but is politically directed against the socialist state. They try to intimidate and attack the believers and clergymen who are averse to taking the road of intolerance and hatred.

Canon Stefan Zareczky, doctor of theology and dean of Bratislava, clearly said in this context: "Such actions often pursue political goals, and their organizers hide behind religion, abusing the sincere religious sentiments and convictions of small honest believers." On Friday evening (but not only then) the overwhelming majority of these believers showed how well they have understood that such provocations contradict their interests and civic stands, and that they implement their religious sentiments in ways that are in harmony with our Constitution and our laws. There is, and will be, scope for religious rites, pilgrimages, and so forth—there will be no freedom for the political provocations of antisocialist elements. In this year of significant anniversaries they can be expected to continue attempts to stage them. They have no chance of succeeding.

Charter 77 Reports Dissident Wonka's Release

AU311653 Paris AFP in English
1647 GMT 31 Mar 88

[Text] Prague, March 31 (AFP)—Czechoslovak authorities have released leading dissident Pavel Wonka after he served a 21-month prison sentence, the Charter 77 human rights group said Thursday.

Mr Wonka, jailed for "incitement to rebellion", faces further punishment, however, for failing to obey prison rules, Charter 77 said.

The minister agrees that the socialist countries' peace initiatives find intense interest and support, that the Warsaw Treaty political forums are followed closely. This is quite understandable, he says. International life now develops under the influence of the assertive and constructive foreign policy of the USSR and the other socialist countries. This policy proceeds from a new political thinking, engendered by the requirements of the age and forming an organic part of the process of restructuring and renewal of the socialist world.

Mr Petur Mladenov says that, characteristically, the Sofia session focused on European subjects. He calls attention to the important joint proposal for the completion of the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe at a foreign ministers' level.

Another characteristic feature of the session, in the minister's view, was the marked attention to the allied states' regional initiatives, to the ways to ease tensions and to build confidence and cooperation in southern and northern Europe and the adjacent sea and ocean areas.

Speaking of Bulgaria's contribution to the implementation of the socialist countries' coordinated foreign policy, Mr Petur Mladenov points, on the one hand, to the country's active part in the coordination of this policy and the fact that the Bulgarian initiatives are an integral part of the Warsaw Treaty peace program and, on the other, Bulgaria's diplomatic activity for the sake of peace, cooperation and security. Bulgaria sees her specific and substantial contribution to the implementation of the fraternal countries' coordinated policy in ensuring Balkan peace and stability, the minister emphasizes, and he goes on to say that the assertion of good neighborliness and confidence in the Balkans through a promotion of bilateral and multilateral dialogue contributes to the strengthening of peace and security in Europe. This applies to the joint initiatives with Romania, to the joint proposal with Greece, and to other initiatives which Bulgaria supports and in which she participates, as well as to the Belgrade meeting.

Chamber of Commerce Talks With SFRY

AU301652 Sofia BTA in English
1619 GMT 30 Mar 88

["Bulgaria—Yugoslavia: Business Ties"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March 30 (BTA)—The active contacts realized at various levels over the last few years have contributed to a revival of Bulgaro-Yugoslav economic relations.

That was stressed at a session of the Mixed Bulgaro-Yugoslav Chamber. The countries were represented by Mr Petur Rusev, president of the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and by Mr Milan Pavic, president of Yugoslavia's Federal Economic Chamber.

Positive results have been achieved in cooperation in the chemical industry, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy. Eleven long-term cooperation agreements are being fulfilled.

Irrespective of the positive tendencies, no considerable increase has yet been registered in trade. The session found that this was due to the insufficient development of long-range forms of cooperation, of joint industrial production and specialisation.

The opinion was expressed that economic interaction could be activated by the establishment of joint ventures, by the joint entry into third countries' markets, by long-range cooperation and cross-border contacts.

Veteran Ideologue Ruben Levi Dies 27 Mar

AU301051 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 29 Mar 88

[Excerpt] The BCP Central Committee, the BCP Central Control-Auditing Commission, and the Central Committee of the Fighters against Fascism and Capitalism announce with deep sorrow that Prof Ruben Avramov Levi, noted party and state figure, and Hero of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, died after a long and grave illness on 27 March 1988.

Leaders Attend Funeral

AU301856 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1730 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Excerpt] The Bulgarian public said farewell today to Prof Ruben Avramov Levi, outstanding party and state figure, and Hero of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The funeral ceremony was attended by former comrades-in-arms of the deceased, representatives of the public, and Comrades Yordan Yotov, Chudomir Aleksandrov, and Georgi Yordanov.

Emil Khristov, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, read a letter of condolences to the family of the deceased from Comrade Todor Zhivkov.

Stanish Bonev, rector of the Academy for Social Sciences and Social Management, delivered a speech on behalf of the BCP Central Committee, the BCP Central Control-Auditing Commission, and the Central Committee of the Fighters Against Fascism and Capitalism Union. A funeral oration was also delivered in the name of the public of the deceased's native town of Samokov. [passage omitted]

He had asked repeatedly to be released early because of medical problems, and was transferred to a prison hospital during the last few months of his sentence.

Mr Wonka was imprisoned after he attempted to stand as an independent candidate in the 1986 legislative elections.

Jakes Views on Restructuring Examined

LD271929 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 27 Mar 88

[Text] The Hungarian newspaper NEPSZABADSAG carries a lengthy article in which it profiles Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. The daily writes that since Milos Jakes was elected to the highest party position, he has been making use of every opportunity to meet with representatives of the most varied strata of society. It emphasizes that during the present stage of restructuring Comrade Jakes has a single goal, and that is to make the socialist economy even more efficient. It reviews what means are necessary for even more intensive development. The paper points out that Milos Jakes is implementing the principle that restructuring, in the same way as Soviet perestroyka [preceding word in Russian], can not simply limit itself to economics because the success of the economic reform is indivisibly linked with the further democratization of society and the modernization of social relations.

Lenart Addresses Party Workers on Restructuring

LD251840 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1800 GMT 25 Mar 88

[Excerpts] Delegates attending party conferences in many localities throughout our homeland discussed existing tasks and the possibilities of further improving the quality of party work. [passage omitted]

Today's meeting of delegates at the all-works party conference in Povazske Strojirny was characterized by the assessment of the existing activity and efforts to bring about new approaches in party work The conference was attended by Jozef Lenart, member of the CPCZ Cental Committee Presidium and first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee.

Comrade Lenart commended the party organization, which, in a difficult struggle, is reinforcing the self-confidence of collectives and encouraging their creativity and tenacity. This is reflected in the work initiatives of workers, technicians, designers, and technologists as well as in the efforts of innovators and those seeking improvements to successfully fulfill their tasks.

We shall now acquaint you with some ideas from Jozef Lenart's contribution to the debate, in the following recording:

[Begin Lenart recording in Slovak] I would like to say that in connection with the revolutionary transformations which we are carrying out in our society, some people have been asking whether restructuring is really essential for us, whether we are not unnecessarily complicating our lives and adding new worries to ourselves. The opposite questions are also being asked: Whether we are serious about restructuring, and whether we shall remain in a half-way situation.

For this reason I believe that one has to return to the importance of the 17th congress, to more deeply clarify for ourselves the conditions which led to the setting of the strategic line of speeding up the social and economic development of society so as to be convinced about the correctness and inevitability of the path on which we have embarked.

The 17th congress proceeded above all from the knowledge that we have in our country exhausted the possibilities of extensive development of the economy and that we do not have any other way, any other possibility, than through an intensive use of material resources and the application of the intellectual potential within our society.

The scientific-technological revolution is taking place in the world at large with new intensiveness, and to master its results we must radically alter the current state of affairs. I have in mind the development of science and technology and their rapid application. It is for this reason that we want to create, by way of a radical economic reform, a new quality of production relations, give them a powerful impetus for the expansion of production forces, and make rapid use of the results of scientific and technological progress. Both the rationalization and the improvement of central management and planning, as well as the strengthening of accountability and powers of work collectives and national committees for the resources entrusted to them to meet the needs of society, are directed toward this aim. [end recording]

Need To Improve Work, Supervision Noted

LD251021 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 24 Mar 88

[Excerpts] A constructive and critical tone prevailed at the party site conference held at the Gabcikovo hydroelectric project on the Danube today. Among the delegates was Comrade Peter Colotka. They spoke in particular about improving political organizational work and stepping up party supervision of fulfillment of economic tasks on this important construction project. Editor Viliam Racek has more details:

[Racek] [Passage omitted] At the Gabcikovo site, workers have entered the final third of the construction work, and the date for putting the first block into operation—

2 July 1990—is getting closer with every passing day. As the delegates at the site conference pointed out, every party member must set an example to other workers in task fulfillment.

Comrade Peter Colotka gave a speech in which he commended the work of all the builders of the Danube hydroelectric project, noting with satisfaction that a number of records were set in last year's results, and a substantial contribution to these results was made by party members. Slovaks, Czechs, Hungarians, Poles, and Yugoslavs are working side by side on this internationalist project, and the work of employees of Vahostav, Hydrostav and Doprastav was outstanding, Comrade Colotka stated. He continued:

[Begin Colotka recording] In highlighting the contribution made by these and other collectives, and, in addition to the material incentive, when we draw attention to their moral contribution, we must at the same time stress the need to apply the experience on a wider scale and learn from their example. The basic lesson is that the decisive prerequisites for success on such an extensive construction project are good work organization: the degree of comprehensiveness and integration of management on the site itself; and, of course, purposeful political organization, training, and supervisory activity by the primary party organizations and the CPSL site committee. This is all the more important, because last year the power generation equipment contractors and fitters came on site.

However, it has transpired—and this has been pointed out by many comrades—that cooperation between them and the construction workers on the site itself has been poor thus far, despite the fact that the enterprises' managers have agreed on joint procedures. Consequently, matters of organization of management of construction and political organization work must receive consistent attention. The approach of everyone involved must be purposefully coordinated so that all the contractors involved in the project form a harmonious whole, capable of fulfulling the challenging tasks on this project. The attention of communists in the primary organizations and site committee has been focused on tackling these tasks.

We commend your responsible approach to—and I want to stress this—the ecological issues which, particularly in this case, must not be overlooked or underestimated. We must, as far as possible, eleminate the negative effects that this project, which will produce many different benefits, will have on the countryside, on forests, on agricultural production, and on the life of the people. Agricultural production and the production of natural woodlands in this area must not be allowed to be negatively affected by a drop in the level of the water table. This natural wealth must be preserved as far as possible in its present form and in the exisitng variety of wildlife, and its production must be increased. Together with the scientists, we must continue to work out and implement the biological plan approved 10 years ago by the Slovak Government, and incorporate its effects in alterations and amendments to the planning documentation. In this respect we will continue to develop and improve cooperation with the Hungarian People's Republic. We have a duty to resolve these problems with the responsibility of communists and with the conscience and awareness of stewards of the present day as well as fathers of those who will come after us. [end recording]

[Racek] That was what Comrade Colotka said in his report. A number of stimulating suggestions were made in the discussion, which also highlighted the main tasks of the CPSL site committee. A number of these tasks have deadlines, and we will keep you informed with regular reports on their fulfillment.

Polednik Addresses Cooperatives Council
LD271330 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 26 Mar 88

[Text] The 10th Congress of the Central Council of Cooperatives [CCC] opened today in Prague, attended by a delegation of the CPCZ Central Committee, the National Front Central Committee, and the federal government, headed by Jindrich Polednik, secretary of the party Central Committee. Here is correspondent Pavel Andres with a report on the proceedings so far at the Palace of Culture:

[Andres] Some 300 delegates representing the close on 4 million members of our nonfarming cooperatives have been reviewing their work in the past period here at the congress, and discussing their fundamental objectives in the context of economic restructuring and the law on the housing, consumer and producer cooperatives. The discussion and the report, which was delivered by the CCC chairman, Frantisek Tesar, pointed out that despite the successes which have been achieved, there is still room for improvement. For example, the variety of goods on offer does not match market requirements or the possibilities of the production facilities, and the range and quality of services do not satisfy consumer demand; maintenance of the housing stock is not at the necessary level either. All these and other shortcomings have to be eliminated.

Among those who spoke in the discussion was Comrade Polednik. He praised the work carried out by the nonfarming cooperatives for the whole of society, stressing that the cooperative movement as a form of socialist enterprise not only has not outlived its day, but still continues to hold an important place in our economic and political system. Going on to speak about the movement's further aims and prospects, he had this to say:

[Begin Polednik recording] In drawing up the law on housing, consumer, and producer cooperatives, which we have jointly discussed on a number of occasions, we

have also jointly pondered—let me put it like this—ways of raising the prestige and further developing the cooperative movement in Czechoslovakia. We have fully agreed that the existing resources at the disposal of the cooperatives can be used better, but at the same time that it is both possible and necessary to follow the path of establishing and setting up new cooperatives. We have agreed that in the Czechoslovak cooperative movement too it is absolutely essential to carry out reforms, implement economic restructuring, further deepen socialist democracy, and further enhance cooperative self-management.

The basic element of our cooperative movement is, will, and must continue to be the individual cooperative, the cooperative as an autonomous and self-financing organization; an organisation which produces goods and provides services. Yes, the cooperatives will continue to work to the state plan, and some norms and limits will be binding for them, but the decisi ve feature in the existence of a cooperative and the way it manages its resources will be the way in which it reacts to and satisfies consumer demand, the needs and demands of the customer. It is on this, above all, that the cooperative's income, its member's wages adnd, very often, the very existence of the cooperative will depend, and not, therefore, on fulfilling quantitative indicators as has been the case so far, but on satisfaction in the market place, the extent to which consumer demand and the people's needs are met. That is what is going to matter, and it is according to these rules that the cooperative movement will have to learn how to manage its resources properly and how to engage in socialist enterprise. [end recording]

[Andres] That was what Comrade Polednik had to say. The proceedings of the 10th congress of the Central Council of Cooperatives resume tomorrow.

CPSL Presidium Approves Computer Program

AU230738 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 16 Mar 88 p 1

[Unattributed "Report From a Session of the CPSL Central Committee Presidium"]

[Excerpt] Bratislava—At its session yesterday, the CPSL Central Committee Presidium discussed and endorsed a proposal concerning the production of future-oriented large-capacity memory units for computer technology. The proposal proceeds from the requirement of the 17th CPCZ Congress and the CPSL Congress to ensure great dynamism of the development of the electrotechnical industry in the Slovak SR. The qualified scientific-research and production potential of Bratislava, capital of the Slovak SR, permits the start of the development and subsequent production of these large-capacity memory units as an integral part of the development of computer and information systems in the CSSR, also in cooperation with the USSR and other socialist countries. At the same time, the Presidium stressed that structural changes in the production-technical base, including in Bratislava, should be ecologically irreproachable and less material-intensive and energy-intensive, while the manufactured products should be comparable to the world technical-economic standards and marked by high labor productivity. [passage omitted]

Computer Plant Feels Harmed by Slusovice

AU230739 Prague VECERNI PRAHA in Czech 14 Mar 88 pp 1,2

["SCH"-signed report: "Aritma Is Self-Confident"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] In the discussion at the all-enterprise conference of communists in the Aritma computer plant in Prague on 12 March, reservations were expressed about the work of the Ministry of the Electrotechnical Industry, for example in the statement of Comrade K. Ramba. He said that Aritma had been chosen by the ministry for the production of large-capacity disk stores, which are essential for the further development of computer technology in the CSSR. "However, the Pramet plant in Sumperk wound up the production of the necessary read/write heads and, by a decision of central agencies, their production under license was allotted to the Slusovice united agricultural cooperative. But the Slusovice cooperative has now announced that it is backing away from this production, in defiance of the confirmed plan of deliveries to Aritma for this year." The impact on the economy of the enterprise would be a production loss of Kcs20 million. Yet Aritma continues to be convinced about the advantageousness of the license and of the entire disk program. [passage omitted]

Passive Slusovice Communists Criticized

AU311134 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Mar 88 p 3

[Jan Lipavsky article: "Among Slusovice Communists; From a Slightly Different Angle"—passages in boldface as published]

[Text] **The signal, at exactly 1300 hours, sounded the "instruction" to open the all-enterprise party conference in the united agricultural cooperative Agrokombinat Slusovice, as if it would be expressing the atmosphere that prevails in this collective: That is, punctuality and absolute discipline.**

The report submitted to the conference did not hold back on open, specific criticism of some comrades for inconsistency and superficial approaches to party tasks. At the same time, one could hear that further restructuring of the economic mechanism and deepening of socialist democracy are necessary. Stress was put on comprehensive care for members of the cooperative, and it was said that annual meetings in 15 primary party organizations had been held in an atmosphere of party exactingness. Other features of that report were distinctly focused

on the economy, technology, on agricultural and nonagricultural production, that is, on construction and industrial production. It was a remarkable balance sheet.

Kcs525 Million Profit [subhead]

In the first 2 years of the 5-year plan: Production almost 20 percent higher, average per-hectare grain yields of 6.7 metric tons (the yields have not dropped under the 6 metric-ton mark since 1980), an average of just over 6,000 liters of milk per milk cow per year, and calves gaining 1.075 kg a day. Addendum—results that are comparable with the "developed states of Europe and the world." All this on less than 5,500 hectares of land. Here, as well in industrial and construction production, Slusovice farmers were applying scientific findings. (Labor productivity is almost four times greater than in other agricultural enterprises.)

In the past year alone, Slusovice farmers made Kcs525 million profit. Nonagricultural production accounts for a considerable portion of the profit; science accounts for 42 percent of the increase in profit. The report stresses that the management of the united agricultural cooperative must orient itself toward the processing of agricultural products more than it has so far, and thus contribute to a greater variety of food products found in our retail market.

After a detailed discussion of the economic plans submitted by the management of the cooperative to primary party organizations and the all-enterprise party committee, the conference affirmed that the objective in the next 2 years is to achieve a 7 metric-ton grain yield per hectare, and 6,500 liters of milk per milk cow per year. At the same time, permanent attention must also be paid to the quality of products. This year already 50 percent of the products are to have European or world standards, and the remaining ones will be rated as first class quality. This and other things on the basis of economic accountability, on the principle of bringing worksites over into socialist care.

The Nature of Discussion [subhead]

With the exception of three comrades, all spoke about economic, technical, and technological matters. It was strongly mentioned there that the possibilities of a faster realization of the food program are being frequently hampered by bureaucratic delays connected with the approval of new products. For example, one waits several months for the approval of a new nonalcoholic drink, and so forth.

However, we asked ourselves whether the unequivocally preponderant concentration on the economy is sometimes not to the detriment of the party work itself, and of the political-organizational, ideo-educational, and mass political work. True, in the Draft of the Main Tasks and Objectives of the CPCZ All-Enterprise Organization we read that it is important to enhance the standard of the intraparty organizational activity, that the attendance of members at meetings must improve, that the activity of all members and candidate members regarding the fulfillment of party tasks must be greater, that the ideo-educational activity should be systematically developed in all primary organizations, and such like. Nevertheless, only two or three comrades spoke on this subject at the annual conference.

Of course, the years of education to teach one to think in economic terms, to assess work mainly from the viewpoint of its high material effect, bear fruit. Not even those 650 party members (from more than the 4,000-strong collective) cannot help being what they are in that respect. One could say nothing is happening; that is all right, after all, we want the spirit of entrepreneurship to assert itself everywhere, we want work measured by profitability, and such like. But such endeavor is correct only as long as its innermost purpose—man and his needs—is kept in consideration.

Of course, the Slusovice comrades can prove that in that respect everything is the way it should be. They have a remarkable social program and the social achievements of members of the Slusovice cooperative are of a high standard. Among other things, 16 kinds of services for members of the cooperative were subsidized to the tune of Kcs1,490,000 last year. People make good money here. The average wage is Kcs3,288 [a month], but, for example, a man that feeds cattle makes some Kcs6,000 and more. Retired members of the cooperative are not forgotten either. (For those who worked in the cooperative at least 10 years there are dinners for Kcs2, recreation, trips abroad, social assistance, and such like.)

Entrepreneurship [subhead]

In following the discussion and assessing the Agrokombinat's production and economic plans, the question of **whether the incessant search for ever new industrial and construction spheres in which one must be entrepreneurially active does not lead to a certain dissipation of the cooperative's innermost mission,** involuntarily crops up. Last year, the cooperative started 125 different construction projects in its own place in Slusovice and throughout the republic, which is 33 percent more than in 1986 (the value: Kcs516 million). As long as this is not to the detriment of agricultural production, why should one restrict this initiative? Especially when this or that state of municipal enterprise lacks capacities or does not feel like, for one reason or another, taking on a certain job. The Slusovice team quickly fills gaps here and there. And it does this quickly, flexibly, and, as rule, in good quality. This also applies to biotechnologies, computers, production of mineral additives, production of some agricultural machinery, and such like.

Management and Organization [subhead]

The efficiency of the Slusovice methods of management resulting in high productivity is unquestionable, but what is lesser known is **how the system of incentives to work affects the consciousness of members of the cooperative, to what extent they feel not only objects but also subjects of management.** In other words: A member of the Slusovice cooperative cannot live on bread alone, even though it is a big slice. Party members know well that **what is involved is the harmony between economic, social, and democratic elements in the managing process.** Therefore, it is in order that the aforementioned Main Tasks and Objectives of the CPCZ All-Enterprise Committee also speak about the need to analyze the views of the working people on various aspects of the collective's life, that is, also on the system of management, the behavior of senior staff [vedouci], and such like.

It would be difficult not to appreciate the Slusovice team's endeavor aimed at harmonizing the aforementioned elements, but it also would be worth thoroughly analyzing whether the worksites are really well-balanced, whether each senior staff member deals with his subordinates sensitively and tactfully. The question, namely, is whether some senior staff members do not confuse work discipline with blind obedience, which they demand under the threat of various sanctions? Of course, it would be an illusion to think that discipline can be established with a good word alone. Nevertheless, there are people who suffice with just that.

Self-Criticism Through Silence? [subhead]

The party organization gives itself the task to concentrate on restructuring the economic mechanism and consistently implementing the Law on Agricultural Cooperatives. However, this requires—as the conference revealed—a greater activity by all party members and candidate members. Many communists **were publicly criticized by name for passivity. Regrettably, not one of them came forward with self-criticism. This, too, shows something. Whereas, as regards the fulfillment of production and economic tasks in general, as a rule, there is nothing they could be criticized for, the situation looks somewhat worse when it comes to the fulfillment of party tasks.** It appears as though the main priority for some of them is to get on well with senior staff members, while the fulfillment of party duties is less important. It would be possible to apply this relationship toward ranking economic personnel to a situation where there might be certain reservations about the Agrokombinat's management, but no one will express them aloud....

However, it is not that the party organization would have reconciled itself to it, identified with it. On the contrary. In the resolution we can read about the need for criticism, but also for self-criticism, a matter which applies to everyone regardless of his function or the position he holds. And it is typical that the party organization proceeds—and not only with public criticism—against those who in any way violate the party statutes and resolutions. **Nine candidates for party membership were disqualified from the ranks of candidates for constant passivity and non-fulfillment of assigned tasks. The organization parted ways with 11 members for similar reasons. One member of the CPCZ all-enterprise committee had to quit his post for the non-fulfillment of tasks.**

The party in Agrokombinat, understandably, is gaining by this. For its uncompromising attitude, for its efforts for the moral-political purity of its own ranks, it is also gaining authority among the people. And replacing those disappointing candidates are new, mostly promising workers [pracovnici], whom the organization is trimming for the enrollment as candidates. This year, much the same as in preceding years, there will be 15 of them. They are mostly young workers [delnici] and technicians.

The party organization in the Agrokombinat Slusovice united agricultural cooperative knows well that its leading role, which it plays in the development of the enterprise, also depends on other things. **Therefore, the conference adopted a resolution which states that in all organizations Communists must enhance the standard of the organizational and management work, that it is necessary to improve the information and cognitive [poznavaci] activity when it comes to the assessment of the political and economic situation of the Agrokombinat.** On the agenda there also will be a regular quarterly work and political assessment of individual senior staff members [vedouci], thus also of the way they behave toward employees, how they lead them to participate in management and administration.

Army Gen Vaclavik Awarded Orders on Birthday

LD301827 Prague CTK in English 1725 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Prague/Moscow March 30 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes today presented the Order of the Victorious February to Defence Minister Army General Milan Vaclavik on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

The high state award was conferred on Milan Vaclavik by Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak for his long devoted work for the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the Czechoslovak People's Army.

Later in the day, Milan Vaclavik was received by Gustav Husak. The president appreciated the minister's devoted work for the Communist Party and socialist society and his share in increasing the readiness of the Czechoslovak People's Army to defend the socialist country.

The USSR Supreme Soviet issued in Moscow today an edict on the awarding of the Lenin Order to Czechoslovak Defence Minister Army General Milan Vaclavik.

The high Soviet award was presented to the Czechoslovak minister for his great merits for strengthening combat friendship between the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

The edict was signed by Soviet President Andrey Gromyko.

Defense Minister, Delegation Visit Cuba

For reportage on the visit to Cuba by CSSR Defense Minister Milan Vaclavik, including his meetings and talks with Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, and Raul Castro, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, see the Cuba subsection of the Caribbean section of the 23 March Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Chemical Weapon Use in Gulf War Denounced

LD310912 Prague CTK in English 0632 GMT 31 Mar 88

[Text] Prague March 31 (CTK)—RUDE PRAVO said today that nothing can justify the use of deadly chemical weapons. "This line runs counter to the principles of civilized behaviour and deserves unquestionable condemnation", the Czechoslovak Communist Party daily stressed.

In a comment on the use of chemical weapons on the Iraqi front, the paper said the continuing conflict provides fertile soil for similar, absolutely incomprehensible, deeply regrettable and inadmissible warfare. A Security Council resolution calling for an end to the conflict, adopted last July 20, unfortunately remained a dead letter. "However, it still is a significant document testing the attitudes of the two sides and showing a way out of the vicious, bloody circle of senseless warfare", the paper added.

Bilak Begins Talks With Hu Qili in Beijing

AU301627 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 23 Mar 88 p 1

[Report by Vladimir Divis from Beijing: "Sincere Interest in the Development of Inter-Party Relations: V. Bilak on a Friendly Working Visit to the PRC"]

[Text] Beijing—Vasil Bilak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and Central Committee secretary, arrived in Beijing on Tuesday [22 March] by air for a friendly working visit.

Talks between Comrade Hu Qili, member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Politburo and Central Committee secretary, and Comrade Vasil Bilak began the same day on the premises of the National People's Congress (NPC).

The two representatives stated with satisfaction that in the last few years the relations between our countries have become fully normalized (also in inter-party contacts). Mutual CPC-CPCZ cooperation and exchanges of experiences have begun to develop. Comrades Bilak and Hu Qili expressed sincere interest in their further comprehensive intensification and development.

They briefed each other on the fulfillment of resolutions adopted by the 17th CPCZ and 13th CPC Congresses in an extremely significant period, a period when both China and Czechoslovakia are accomplishing the demanding program of restructuring the whole society.

With regard to disarmament, the crucial issue of present international relations, they expressed full support for the documents signed by top USSR and U.S. representatives last December. However, these documents are merely the first, even if promising, step on the difficult road toward the total elimination of nuclear weapons on our planet. They also spoke in favor of removing chemical and bacteriological weapons, and at the same time of substantially reducing potential of conventional arms.

In the course of the talks, which were held in a comradely, friendly atmosphere, they also agreed that it is necessary to be consistent in warding off any and all efforts to acquire unilateral strategic supremacy with the aid of new and most modern arms systems, and particularly all attempts to militarize outer space.

The Chinese representative highly appreciated the political line pursued by the CPCZ and CSSR. He stressed that no country is small or large in efforts to maintain peace on earth—they all can make a striking contribution toward averting the nuclear threat. In this context Comrade Hu Qili also positively appraised the recent Czechoslovak peace initiatives.

That evening a festive dinner was given in the Czechoslovak guest's honor, during which both representatives delivered toasts. Comrade Bilak stressed that at the present stage, relations between CSSR and China are characterized by a dynamic development in all spheres of contacts and cooperation and by a constructive political dialogue. He concluded his statement by stressing Czechoslovakia's interest in the continued stable development of mutual relations, as a common contribution to the cause of peace and socialism and to the creation of an atmosphere of world-wide understanding and cooperation.

On the same day Comrade V. Bilak laid a wreath at the Monument of the People's Heroes at the Gate of Heavenly Peace in Beijing's main square.

Details on Joint CSSR-PRC Venture

AU221038 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 16 Mar 88 p 2

[Report on interview with Miroslav Subert, Czechoslovak director of the Chinese-Czechoslovak Shipping Company, by Pavel Paral; date, place not given— in the "Three Questions—Three Answers" column: "Joint Shipping Enterprise"]

[Excerpts] For a relatively long time there has been talk of setting up joint enterprises with partners from countries with freely convertible currencies. Nonetheless, leaving aside the Tessek manufacturing enterprise for laboratory appliances with Danish participation, the utilization of this form trails behind expectations. The public has therefore responded with interest to the news about the founding of a Chinese-Czechoslovak enterprise for maritime transport, the activity of which was launched a few days ago. We therefore asked Dr Miroslav Subert, its Czechoslovak director, for some information.

[Paral] Could you introduce the joint enterprise to us in greater detail?

[Subert] The enterprise, whose official name is the Chinese-Czechoslovak Shipping Company [name in English], was founded on the initiative of the two countries' governments. [passage omitted] The Chinese China Ocean Shipping Company and the Czechoslovak Sea-Going Shipping Line act as its founders. The two sides agreed on a 50-percent stake in the company's capital. [passage omitted] The enterprise is headed by two directors, a Chinese and a Czechoslovak, who have the same rights and duties. Its management body is an administrative council, made up of four representatives of each side, of whom two are appointed as the council's presidents. The administrative council supervises the commercial policy of the enterprise; checks and approves its development plans, the annual financial statement, and the shipping plan; appoints and recalls the directors; and so forth. The head office of the enterprise is in Prague and is therefore subject to Czechoslovak law. A branch office is situated in Beijing.

We have two sea-going vessels—the Czechoslovak ship "Orava" with a carrying capacity of 15,000 tonnes and the Chinese ship "Funiushan" with a carrying capacity of 16,000 tonnes—both of which are modern, approximately 5-year-old vessels. Given the current dynamism of trade between the CSSR and the PRC, the capacity of these ships cannot keep up with requirements and we would therefore like to acquire more ships.

[Paral] What were the aims with which the company was founded?

[Subert] The purpose of the company is to ensure the transport of bulk commodities [substraty], chiefly between the PRC and the CSSR. [passage omitted]

We are therefore reacting to the disparity between the growing exchange of goods with the PRC and the lack of capacity of the Czechoslovak Sea-Going Shipping Line, which, moreover, is not orientated towards regular transport to East Asia. Its ships used to go to China sporadically, whereas the assignment of our enterprise is to build and maintain a regular line. Since the company is free of profit taxes in both countries, it can offer advantageous terms of transport and thereby help boost bilateral trade exchange.

[Paral] What obstacles need to be overcome in founding such an organization?

[Subert] The problems are a result of differences in the legislation of the two countries. The legal documents underlying the activity of the enterprise therefore had to be based on specific resolutions of the federal government, as exemptions from a number of legal norms. It seems that we are not yet adequately prepared to flexibly introduce such activities. Although the Tessek enterprise was founded on the same principles as our company, Tessek does not employ any people from the partner country, which is a major difference. Therefore, it did not have to face problems such as drawing up the terms of the contract of employment, working regulations, provision of medical and social care, and the like.

We are also facing the problem of exchange rate conversion. The disparity in exchange rate conversions also accounts for disparate views on the efficiency of one and the same business operation. In such cases it is necessary to look for a mutually acceptable compromise. Nonetheless, I believe we have already blazed parts of the trail for our successors, so that we are in a position today to pass on to them experiences in a few hours that took us months to acquire.

[Paral] Thank you for the interview.

Husak Decorates Departing PRC Ambassador

AU301700 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 23 Mar 88 p 1

[CTK report: Order of White Lion to China's Ambassador"]

[Text] Prague—CSSR President Gustav Husak received Zhang Dake, PRC ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the CSSR, in Prague on Tuesday [22 March] in connection with the latter's concluding his diplomatic mission.

On that occasion he presented the ambassador with the Czechoslovak Order of White Lion Second Class, which was awarded for the ambassador's personal contribution to the development of CSSR-PRC friendship and cooperation.

During their cordial and friendly talk, CSSR President Gustav Husak thanked Ambassador Zhang Dake for the efforts he had developed during his term of office in Prague to expand and consolidate Czechoslovak-Chinese relations, and he wished him firm health and much success in his future work.

The reception was attended by Frantisek Salda, head of the Chancellery of the CSSR President.

Husak Receives Envoy to Soviet Union

LD282043 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1600 GMT 28 Mar 88

[Text] Gustav Husak, president of the Republic, received in Prague castle today Jindrich Rehorek, Czechoslovak ambassador to the Soviet Union. Their conversation dealt with topical issues related to Czechoslovak-Soviet cooperation.

Leaders' Appearances 10-16 Mar 88

AU221904 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech and Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak from 11 to 17 March report the following public appearances by CSSR leaders (source, date, and page number of each report is given in parentheses): Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; Frantisek Pitra, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; and Vratislav Vajnar, CSSR minister of interior, were at Ruzyne Airport in Prague on 10 March to see off Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, to the GDR, and to welcome him back the same evening. (Bratislava PRAVDA 11 Mar pp 1,7)

Alois Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly, received Fine Mushaukwa Liboma, Zambian ambassador to the CSSR resident in Moscow, in Prague on 10 March, in connection with the termination of the latter's diplomatic mission. (Bratislava PRAVDA 11 Mar p 1)

Antonin Kapek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and leading secretary of the Prague CPCZ City Committee, presented the Order of Labor to Josef Hauser, employee of the Prague CPCZ City Committee, in Prague on 10 March, on the occasion of the latter's 60th birthday. (RUDE PRAVO 11 Mar p 2)

Jan Fojtik, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, attended a ceremony in the National Monument on Zizkov hill in Prague on 10 March, during which the urn with the ashes of Gusta Fucikova, widow of Julius Fucik, former member of the CPCZ Central Committee and chairwoman of the CSSR Women's Union, was put in a box in the "memorial wall." (RUDE PRAVO 11 Mar p 2)

Ladislav Adamec, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and premier of the Czech SR; Antonin Kapek; and Josef Haman, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, attended annual conferences of various CPCZ all-enterprise organizations on 12 March—Adamec was at the conference of communists at the Ministry of Finance of the Czech SR in Prague; Kapek at the conference of communists in the CKD-Foundry plant in Prague; and Haman at the conference of communists of the Nosek-Tuchlovice Mine in Kladno. (RUDE PRAVO 14 Mar p 1)

Jozef Lenart, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, and Ignac Janak, candidate member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, received the newly elected leadership of the Slovak Union of Anti-Fascist Fighters in Bratislava on 14 March. (Bratislava PRAVDA 15 Mar p 1)

The same day in Bratislava, Jozef Lenart and Peter Colotka, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and premier of the Slovak SR, also received Tran Hong Hai, new SRV consul general in Bratislava, and Franz Pokiser, departing GDR consul general in Bratislava. (Bratislava PRAVDA 15 Mar p 1)

Mikulas Beno, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, addressed the annual members meeting of the CPSL organization at the general directorate of the Cement and Lime Works concern in Trencin on 14 March. (Bratislava PRAVDA 15 Mar p 2)

Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, received Toncho Chakarov, new Bulgarian ambassador to Czechoslovakia, in Prague on 14 March, prior to the presentation of his credentials. (RUDE PRAVO 15 Mar p 2)

Frantisek Pitra attended the annual conference of communists at the CSSR Ministry of Agriculture and Food in Prague on 15 March. (RUDE PRAVO 16 Mar p 1) The same day in Prague, Frantisek Pitra also attended the opening of the 10th Conference of the International Trade Union Federation of Agriculture, Forestry, and Plantation Workers. (RUDE PRAVO 16 Mar p 2)

Jindrich Polednik, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, and Bohuslav Chnoupek were members of a delegation led by Lubomir Strougal, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and CSSR premier, which expressed condolences on the death of Pham Hung, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, at the SRV Embassy in Prague on 15 March. (RUDE PRAVO 16 Mar p 1)

The same day in Prague, Bohuslav Chnoupek also received Miklos Barity, new Hungarian ambassador to Czechoslovakia, prior to the presentation of his credentials. (RUDE PRAVO 16 Mar p 2)

Vasil Bilak received Zhang Dake, ambassador of the PRC to Czechoslovakia, in Prague on 15 March, in connection with the termination of the latter's diplomatic mission. (RUDE PRAVO 16 Mar p 1)

Jan Fojtik received a Portuguese Communist Party [PCP] delegation led by Jorge Araujo, member of the Political Commission and secretary of the PCP Central Committee, in Prague on 15 March. (RUDE PRAVO 16 Mar p 2)

Bohuslav Chnoupek attended CSSR President Gustav Husak's reception of the new Bulgarian, Hungarian, and Somali ambassadors in Prague on 16 March. (RUDE PRAVO 17 Mar p 1)

Antonin Kapek attended the annual members meeting of the CPCZ organization in the CKD-Supplies Enterprise in Prague on 16 March. (RUDE PRAVO 17 Mar p 2)

The delivery of Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak of 9 March and of Bratislava VECERNIK in Slovak of 10 March, which arrived late, also permits the following additions to the leaders' list for 3-9 March:

Milan Vaclavik, CSSR minister of national defense, received a delegation of female Army employees on the occasion of the International Women's Day in Prague on 8 March. (Bratislava PRAVDA 9 Mar p 2)

Karel Hoffmann, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, paid a 2-day working visit to Bratislava (no date given), to study the implementation of the conclusions of the Seventh Session of the CPCZ City Committee in the conditions of the Bratislava party organization. (VECERNIK 10 Mar p 1)

Honecker Receives USSR's Kulikov, Gribkov

LD311215 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1110 GMT 31 Mar 88

[Text] Berlin, 31 Mar (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, chairman of the State Council and of the GDR National Defense Council, today received Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Joint Forces of the Warsaw Pact states, and Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, commander in chief of the Joint Forces, who are currently visiting the GDR.

During the friendly meeting, Marshal of the Soviet Union Kulikov conveyed greetings from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which Erich Honecker cordially reciprocated.

The general secretary and his guests held an exchange of views on current questions of military policy. They concurred that the early withdrawal, agreed a few days ago, of two missile brigades with type OTR-22 (SS-12) missiles from GDR territory to the USSR, even before the ratification of the agreement between the USSR and the United States, documented the Warsaw Pact states' serious will to secure peace, and helped to promote the process of creating trust.

In this context, they welcomed the fact that the summit meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan is scheduled to take place from the 29 May to 2 June 1988 in Moscow.

Erich Honecker underlined the determination of the SED and the GDR to work alongside the Soviet Union and other socialist states for a world free of nuclear weapons and for a secure peace. He recalled in this respect the GDR's initiative for holding an international meeting in Berlin in June 1988 for creating zones free of nuclear weapons, and said he would continue to help improve the international situation by means of a policy of dialogue and cooperation.

Marshal of the Soviet Union Kulikov stressed that the Joint Forces, working on the basis of the distinctly defense character of the military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact states, would maintain their readiness and ability to give collective military protection to the socialist countries at the necessary level, and would continue at all times to fulfill with honor their mission in preserving peace.

Present at the meeting were Politburo members of the SED Central Committee, Army General Heinz Kessler, minister of national defense, and Egon Krenz, Central Committee secretary, as well as Colonel General Fritz Steletz, deputy minister of national defense and chief of the Main Staff of the National People's Army.

Joint SPD-SED Working Group Holds Meeting

Speaks Out on Nuclear Arms

LD301449 Hamburg DPA in German 1404 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] East Berlin/Bonn (DPA)—The joint SPD/SED working group has spoken out against any steps toward the modernization of nuclear arms systems in East and West. The new prospects arising from the INF agreement must be used much more in order to embark upon fresh paths toward further disarmament, says a release by the SPD which was published after the third meeting of the group in East Berlin today.

It is unanimously stressed in this that it is now a matter of continuing the disarmament dialogue without interruption. The Federal Republic and the GDR should contribute to this with initiatives of their own.

The working group, which has set itself the goal of developing a concept of mutual nonattack capability with mutually sufficient defense capability, will continue its deliberations in Bonn 17-18 May. Members from the SPD side are Bundestag deputies Egon Bahr, Karsten Voigt, Erwin Horn, and Hermann Scheer. Politburo member Hermann Axen heads the SED delegation.

Discusses Security Policy

LD302029 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1443 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Berlin, 30 Mar (ADN)—On 30 March, a joint working group of the SED Central Committee and the SPD Bundestag group met in Berlin to discuss security policy issues in Europe.

The new perspectives opened up by the agreement on intermediate-range missiles should be used toward further disarmament. The working group expects that the treaty on intermediate-range missiles will be speedily ratified and implemented. It believes that no new nuclear armament measures described as modernization should be adopted after the treaty's ratification.

The working group paid tribute to the premature, and now concluded, withdrawal of intermediate-range weapons from the GDR and the CSSR. It favors an early conclusion of an agreement on a 50-percent reduction of strategic weapons of the USSR and the United States, with adherence to the ABM Treaty, of a ban on nuclear tests and on chemical weapons, and of a start on substantial negotiations on conventional disarmament and stability from the Atlantic to the Urals.

They agreed that it is important to continue the disarmament dialogue without interruption. The GDR and the FRG should contribute to this with their own initiatives.

In this connection, the working group affirmed their joint initiatives for the creation of a zone in Europe free from chemical weapons and a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe.

The members of the joint working group will take part in the "International meeting on nuclear-free zones" in Berlin in June.

The working group continued its talks on the creation of a bilateral nonaggression capability linked to an adequate defense capability and discussed other topics relating to arms control and disarmament. They agreed to continue their work on 17-18 May 1988 in Bonn.

The talks in Berlin were attended by: on the SPD side: Egon Bahr, chairman of the disarmament and arms control subcommittee of the FRG Bundestag and member of the SPD Presidium; Karsten D. Voigt, chairman of the chemical disarmament working group and head of the SPD Bundestag group in the Foreign Affairs Committee and member of the SPD Executive; Erwin Horn, head of the SPD Bundestag group in the defense committee; Dr Hermann Scheer, head of the disarmament and arms control working group of the SPD Bundestag group and member of the SPD Party Council; and Wolfgang Wiemer, adviser to the SPD Bundestag group.

On the SED side: Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee Dr Manfred Uschner, deputy departmental head within the Central Committee and secretary of the foreign policy commission of the SED Central Committee Politburo; Prof Manfred Mueller, head of the Basic Questions Department of the Potsdam-Babelsberg Institute of International Relations; Dr Guenter Hillmann, section head in the GDR Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Karl-Heinz Wagner, an official of the SED Central Committee.

GDR, West Berlin Agree to Territory Exchange

LD311120 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1037 GMT 31 Mar 88

[Text] Berlin, 31 Mar ADN—As a result of the recent talks between Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, and the governing mayor of Berlin (West), Eberhard Diepgen, a further exchange of territory was agreed upon today between the GDR Government and the Senate of Berlin (West).

The agreement provides for enclaves of Berlin (West) still existing in the GDR as well as a piece of territory bordering on the capital of Berlin in the region of Prenzlauer Berg amounting altogether to 87.3 hectares to be handed over to the GDR, while the GDR will hand over a number of pieces of territory in the area of the state frontier with Berlin (West), covering altogether 96.7 hectares. In view of the difference in value between the territories to be exchanged, the Senate is to pay the GDR Government compensation amounting to DM76 million.

The agreement was signed by the representative of the GDR Government, Dr. Walter Mueller, and the delegate of the Senate of Berlin (West), leading Senate official Gerhard Kunze.

Further Report

LD311133 Hamburg DPA in German 1000 GMT 31 Mar 88

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—The agreement negotiated between the Berlin Senate and the GDR concerning the most extensive exchange of territory so far was signed in East Berlin today. The two chief negotiators, Gerhard Kunze for the Berlin Senate and Walter Mueller for the GDR Government, signed the agreement in the GDR Foreign Ministry after discussions lasting 5 years.

As a result of the agreement, several traffic obstacles resulting from the building of the Berlin Wall in 1961 will be removed and the remaining West Berlin enclaves on GDR territory will be surrendered. West Berlin receives 14 as yet unused pieces of land with an area of more than 96 hectares. Four areas of territory covering more than 87 hectares become territory belonging to East Berlin or the GDR. The Senate is paying 76 million marks to the GDR in compensation.

Kunze stressed after the signing that the agreement is based on the four power agreement, which has again proved its worth. The negotiations were not always easy. A settlement acceptable to both sides was arrived at through compromises. There could be fresh negotiations concerning further small areas.

Mueller pointed out that the agreement dates back to discussion between GDR party and state chief Erich Honecker and governing Mayor Eberhard Diepgen. It confirms that it is possible, while taking account of mutual interests, to solve questions on the agenda to the advantage of both sides, and to extend and deepen cooperation between the GDR and West Berlin in the interest of neighborly relations. Questions of status are not affected by this.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Denounces Israel

AU311115 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 30 Mar 88 pp 1-2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—On Tuesday [29 March] in Berlin, Ambassador Wolfgang Meyer, spokesman of the GDR Foreign Ministry, condemned the continuing, flagrant violation of the most elementary regulations of international law by the Israeli occupation forces. In a talk with correspondents he stated that the Tel Aviv government's brutal measures of oppression constitute a disregard for the latest resolutions of the UN Security

Council and the UN Human Rights Commission. This policy by Israel, which is characterized by the open violation of human rights, has caused dismay all over the world, Meyer said.

The GDR people feel sympathy for the relatives of the more than 200 Palestinian patriots who were killed as victims of Israel's policy of terror and express their deep solidarity with the thousands of injured and arrested people. The current situation in the occupied Arab territories stresses most emphatically that the efforts to find a political solution to the Middle East conflict have to be further intensified, Meyer stated.

One way to do this is to convene an international Middle East conference under UN aegis. It is time to take specific steps in the Security Council to prepare such a conference and to conduct corresponding consultations at the foreign ministry level. Any attempt to solve the Middle East problem by political means and in a just and durable way presupposes equal participation of the PLO in such a process. Therefore, the GDR is against all activities to close down the office of the PLO representation to the United Nations in New York, Meyer said.

In conclusion, the spokesman affirmed that the GDR will continue to stand in form solidarity at the side of the Palestinian people in their just struggle to implement their right to self-determination and to repel Israel's policy of aggression and occupation, which is in violation of international law. In particular "Land Day," which is observed by the Palestinian people on 30 March to reaffirm their demand for an end to Israeli occupation, is an appropriate occasion to reconfirm this solidarity.

Sindermann Meets Indian President on Visit

LD310512 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1511 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Delhi, 30 Mar (ADN)—Horst Sindermann, president of the GDR People's Chamber and member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the SED, is heading a GDR parliamentary delegation on a visit to India. On Wednesday he met Indian President Rameswami Venkataraman. The GDR politician conveyed the cordial greetings of Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the SED and chairman of the GDR State Council, which were warmly reciprocated by the Indian head of state.

The Indian politician paid tribute to the constructive GDR policy pursued under Erich Honecker of results-oriented dialogue, reason, and realism. Rameswami Venkataraman said that between India and the GDR there are excellent relations, which are reflected above all in the economic sector and which are developing at a high level to mutual advantage.

Horst Sindermann stressed that India's policy of securing peace, arms control, and disarmament is held in high esteem in the GDR.

People's Chamber President Sindermann earlier met Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on the same day.

Fischer Receives AAPSO Official

LD241341 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1649 GMT 23 Mar 88

[Text] Berlin, 23 Mar (ADN)—GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer held a friendly exchange of views today with the acting president of AAPSO, Dr Murad Ghalib.

Oskar Fischer informed his guest about GDR initiatives aimed at improving the international situation. He expressed the high esteem of the GDR for the work of AAPSO. The GDR will continue to stand at the side of states and peoples struggling for their national independence and sovereignty.

Dr Mourad Ghaleb stressed the support of AAPSO for disarmament and the creation of nuclear weapons-free zones throughout the world.

Austria's Laenderbank Opens Office in Berlin

AU280900 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 26-27 Mar 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—On Friday [25 March] Dr Gerhard Beil, GDR minister of foreign trade, received for a talk Ferdinand Lacina, minister of finance of the Republic of Austria, who had come to Berlin to open an office of the Oesterreichische Laenderbank bank. The ministers assessed the state of overall relations between the two countries positively.

Ferdinand Lacina pointed out that the 1988 Leipzig Spring Fair had met with the approval of the responsible politicians and representatives from the economy. The exhibitors and customers were satisfied with the results. The visitor from Austria stressed that the opening of an office of the Oesterreichische Laenderbank at the international trade center in Berlin is an expression of the existing strong economic relations between the two countries, which will now receive a further boost.

The meeting was attended by Herta Koenig, GDR deputy minister of finance, and Dr Werner Polze, president of the GDR Foreign Trade Bank.

Central Committee Greets Guyana CP Leader

AU241624 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 22 Mar 88 p 1

[ND report: "Cordial Congratulations to Comrade Cheddi Jagan"]

[Text] East Berlin (ND)—The SED Central Committee has sent the following congratulatory message signed by General Secretary Erich Honecker to Cheddi Jagan, general secretary of the People's Progressive Party of Guyana:

Dear Comrade Cheddi Jagan, on behalf of the SED Central Committee and on my own behalf, I convey to you cordial congratulations and fraternal militant greetings on your 70th birthday.

Our party respects you as a steadfast and passionate fighter for the interests of the working people of Guyana, whose work is closely linked with the decades of struggle against colonial and imperialist exploitation, for national independence and social progress.

We know you as a sincere friend of our German socialist worker-peasant state, and appreciate your special contribution to developing and promoting friendly relations between the peoples of the GDR and Guyana.

Dear Comrade Cheddi Jagan, please accept my best wishes for good health, creative vigor, and further success in your responsible activity.

With socialist greetings,

SED Central Committee,

E. Honecker,

general secretary.

[On the same page NEUES DEUTSCHLAND carries a 50-word report on Cheddi Jagan having been awarded the "Great Star of Friendship Among Peoples" in gold following a proposal by the SED Central Committee Politburo]

Environment Minister Attends Conference in Milan
AU280947 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 26-27 Mar 88 p 5

[Excerpt] Milan (ADN)—At a conference in Milan focusing on the relationship between development and the environment, Dr Hans Reichelt, GDR minister of environmental protection and water conservancy, spoke on Friday [25 March] about the results, goals, and tasks of the GDR's environmental policy. He explained to politicians, scientists, and experts from 30 countries how the GDR, in accordance with the principles of peaceful coexistence and in the interest of the peoples, is promoting the careful use and the protection of natural resources, which are of crucial importance for the development of mankind, and in order to increase and improve the social living conditions. The GDR's environmental policy is aimed at safeguarding peace, at full employment, and the well-being of the people, Reichelt pointed out. [passage omitted]

Felfe, Mueller Attend Agriculture Seminar
LD241742 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1526 GMT 24 Mar 88

[Excerpt] Leipzig, 24 Mar ADN—The central seminar with leading cadres and operatives of the GDR agriculture, forestry and foodstuffs sector continued at Leipzig-Markkleeberg on Thursday with a speech on the 1988 plan tasks by Dr Wilhelm Cesarz, state secretary in the Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Foodstuffs. Addressing the 1,300 or so participants, including Werner Felfe, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, and Margarete Mueller, candidate member of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee and head of an agricultural-industrial association, he explained the need to make the increasing demand for high quality products into the basis of work in fulfilling the plan.

Professor Dr Dieter Spaar, president of the GDR Academy of Agricultural Sciences, stressed the fruitful cooperation of agricultural scientists and those working in the practical sphere. This was a necessary precondition of the further increase in agricultural performance by comprehensive intensification. [passage omitted]

Felfe Addresses Seminar
AU251656 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 24 Mar 88 p 5

[Report on speech by Werner Felfe, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, at a national seminar of the SED Central Committee and the GDR Council of Ministers with leading cadres and practitioners of socialist agriculture, forestry, and foodstuffs industry in Markkleeberg on 23 March: "National Seminar on Agriculture, Forestry, and Foodstuffs Industry; Cooperative Peasants Fulfilled Their Pledges; New Initiatives for Dynamic Growth"]

[Excerpts] The agricultural policy and the policy of alliance of the SED and our socialist state is firmly integrated in the shaping of the developed socialist society, Werner Felfe, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee stressed at the national seminar in Leipzig-Markkleeberg. The core of our sociopolitical course is the unity of economic and social policy. We are implementing it through our economic strategy, the main emphasis of which is placed on the comprehensive intensification of the national economy.

With the 1988 plan we are taking another decisive step on the path toward qualitative economic growth, the speaker stated. In this spirit, the cooperatives' annual general meetings and the annual accountability reports of the state farms, enterprises, and combines of the agriculture, forestry, and foodstuffs industry bore testimony to the confidence of the cooperative peasants and workers in the SED's proven policy. New initiatives aimed at increasing yield, performance, and efficiency were launched everywhere.

Policy of Alliance Bears Rich Fruit [subhead]

We can rightly be proud of the following results: The peasants' pledges given at the 13th Peasants' Congress have been fulfilled:

—With 51.2 grain equivalent units per hectare of agricultural area in 1987 we attained the highest yield in the history of our country.

—Animal production rose to 42.9 grain equivalent units per hectare of agricultural area [figures as published]. A total of 38.3 percent of grain equivalent units were produced on the basis of our own fodder. This corresponds to an 18.2-percent increase compared with the average values of the years 1981 to 1985.

—The foodstuffs industry fulfilled the plan for the finished products to be sold to the population 111.2 percent.

—The forestry industry fulfilled the rough timber delivery plan 100.9 percent.

—The export tasks concerning socialist economic areas were fulfilled 103 percent, and concerning nonsocialist economic areas 102.9 percent. [passage omitted]

Where Over 100,000 Peasants Are Ruined Every Year [subhead]

The Politburo member spoke in detail about the unity of the struggle for peace and the strengthening of socialism. The dynamic development of agricultural production is of fundamental importance for the successful continuation of the GDR's foreign policy, aimed at peace, disarmament, detente, and mutually advantageous cooperation, as adopted by the 11th party congress. Within the framework of the "My workplace is my battle station for peace" drive, the working people are accomplishing great achievements in agriculture.

The speaker then compared the safe prospects which socialism offers to peasants with the decline of peasants in the capitalist world. In the industrialized capitalist countries over 100,000 farms are ruined every year. Capitalism is unable to translate a production increase into social progress. From the contradiction between capital and work there results a situation—which is inconsistent with common sense and morals—in which an enormous amount of food is stockpiled while more than 800 million people are starving all over the world.

Werner Felfe then elaborated on the tasks of our economic strategy to turn agriculture increasingly into a branch of applied sciences. He mentioned valuable experience that was obtained by establishing close links between science and agricultural practice. By means of microelectronics, information technology, and biotechnology, hitherto unknown opportunities are emerging for a more efficient use of natural factors in agricultural production.

Currently, 3,200 office and personal computers are in operation, including 14,000 units in agricultural producer cooperatives for plant and livestock production. Computer technology should be used in a cooperative manner, so that as many agricultural producer cooperatives and state farms as possible benefit from the advantages. In this way, a higher degree of use can also be achieved. What is required is the GDR's independent development and production of special measuring, controlling, dosing, and weighing systems, Werner Felfe pointed out.

Economic yardsticks should be applied even more consistently to the whole of scientific and technological work, and corresponding impulses should be provided. The many proven forms of cooperation between science and practice must be further developed in terms of content.

Scientific-technological and economic cooperation with the other CEMA members, particularly with the USSR, is to be further developed in terms of quality and made more binding.

Not All Keep Pace With the Best [subhead]

In accordance with the resolutions of the 11th SED Congress, the goal in agriculture continues to be to achieve a maximum development in plant production. With yields per hectare of 45.6 decitonnes of grain, 273 decitonnes of potatoes, 350 decitonnes of sugar beet, 427 decitonnes of corn, and 445 decitonnes of field forage, it was possible to harvest the largest gross production of plants seen in the GDR's history up until then. Thus, we have taken an enormous step toward reaching the target, which is to achieve a stable average value of 50 to 52 grain equivalent units per hectare in the GDR.

When analyzing the good results of the year 1987, we must not overlook the considerable reserves that still exist. On the one hand, the number of kreise and bezirke with top performances has increased, but on the other, many of them are lagging behind in terms of the yield. Werner Felfe cited numerous examples in this connection. He compared the achievements of bezirke, kreise, cooperatives, and state farms. Our primary political task is to fulfill the target of the 13th Peasants' Congress, which is to harvest 12 million tonnes of grain by 1990. As a prerequisite for this, the per-hectare yields are to be increased in all areas.

In potato production, stable average yields of some 300 decitonnes per hectare should be achieved in the next few years. There are still insufficiencies in sugar beet production. In this field there is the largest discrepancy

regarding the targets of the 13th Peasants' Congress. In the future a stable production of 370 to 390 decitonnes per hectare is to be attained.

In crop production, according to the plan, 49.2 grain equivalent units per hectare of agricultural area are to be achieved in 1988. But this is not sufficient to supply enough fodder for animals from our own production, and to overfulfill the planned extent of slaughter animal procurement. Therefore, the 1988 militant target for gross plant production should be set at over 50 grain equivalent units per hectare of agricultural area.

The speaker referred to Erich Honecker's statement in his speech to the first kreis secretaries that healthy food and an attractive supply to our population requires an above-average increase in the production of a wide range of vegetables and fruits. To achieve this, more extensive initiatives are necessary in all regions.

In ensuring the supply, great significance is to be attributed to a rapid increase in vegetable production in the first half of 1988, particularly by further expanding the cultivation of winter [ueberwinternd] vegetables, by ensuring a more timely and increased production of cucumbers and tomatoes in greenhouses and under plastic covers, and by extending the production of witloof chicory and Chinese cabbage, as well as through the reliable supply of high-quality young vegetable plants for the socialist enterprises and small gardeners.

The unity between the intensification of crop production and the preservation of the natural environment is a basic goal of our agricultural policy. The awareness that more attention is to be paid to the application of soil-preserving cultivation methods, to a more economical use of chemicals and other measures designed to increase the quality of work, is to be enhanced everywhere.

In animal production, 85,000 tonnes of slaughter animals, 325,100 tonnes of milk, 142.8 million eggs, and 459 tonnes of wool were produced in excess of the plan in 1987. When making a detailed analysis, one finds that performance per animal has further increased. The overfulfillment of the plan for slaughter animals, however, had a negative impact on the livestock.

But the reduction of livestock is not in keeping with the resolution of the 11th SED Congress, which says: Increased animal production is to be ensured through further intensification and a performance increase per animal, while at the same time maintaining the existing livestock. All bezirke are more or less involved in the decrease. A change for the better is to be achieved as soon as possible in this sphere. [passage omitted]

Democracy Involves the Active Participation of Thousands of People [subhead]

Increasing demands regarding the development of capacities result from the growing supply of agricultural raw materials. Greater attention is to be devoted to the work of the cooperation associations.

In order to provide more sawed timber for the national economy and the population, cooperation between the forestry enterprises and sawmills is to be strengthened. Also in forestry, a performance increase can mainly be achieved through scientific-technological progress and by working according to district-related high-yield concepts.

Our socialist democracy is supported by the active participation of the cooperative peasants and workers in managing and planning socialist production, and in matters that concern society as a whole. Thousands of them are actively working in people's representative bodies, in agriculture councils, and in the foodstuffs industry, as well as in many other democratic bodies. [passage omitted]

Higher Productivity Is Needed Everywhere [subhead]

The central issue of the economic strategy with a view to the year 2000 is the purposeful linking of labor-saving and asset-saving intensification, including the more economical use of non-recurring expenditures. The efficient use and modernization of existing buildings and equipment is gaining a decisive significance in ensuring a greater economic use of the basic assets and higher labor productivity.

And it is a question of systematically increasing the supply of modern production means that are in keeping with the requirements of intensive agriculture, and of accelerating the development of facilities for the in-house production of rationalization means. In the case of some positions, it was possible to increase the planned provision of technical equipment. This includes combine-harvesters, field choppers [Feldhaecksler], tractors, and loaders. The supply of spare parts is inadequate. Here the situation continues to be tense.

The only viable way for us is to link the new technology with the existing machines in a sensible manner, to make maximum use of it, and to tap reserves with greater consistency in order to ensure the applicability of the technical equipment, to extend its service life, and to reduce costs, Werner Felfe pointed out. [passage omitted]

Continued Reportage of Stoph's Budapest Visit

Stoph, Kadar Hold Talks

LD301508 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1248 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, 30 Mar (ADN)—At the conclusion of his official visit of friendship to the Hungarian Peoples Republic, Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, was received for a detailed talk by MSZMP General Secretary Janos Kadar. Willi Stoph conveyed cordial greetings from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, which were reciprocated in an equally cordial manner.

The two politicians noted that the visit again demonstrated the close friendship and solidarity between the SED and the MSZMP, between the GDR and the Hungarian Peoples Republic. Janos Kadar described the fulfillment of the tasks facing his country's economy in 1988 as extraordinarily important for Hungary's further development. He pointed out that the MSZMP is currently concentrating on thorough preparation of its national conference planned for May 1988, the goal of which is to further consolidate Hungary's socialist achievements that have been established on a stable foundation.

During the talk, the chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers spoke about the intense efforts of the GSR working people to fulfill the decisions of the 11th SED Congress. The proven course of the unity of economic and social policy will be continued consistently. The central question of the 1988 plan is the high economic effectiveness of science and technology in production, which derives above all from the accelerated development and application of key technologies. Willi Stoph described in detail the successes already achieved in the GDR on this path.

The two participants in the talk agreed that the peace policy of socialism determines the international political situation more strongly than ever before. After years of increasing confrontation, constantly increasing arms race, and growing tensions a change toward the better is beginning to emerge.

Willi Stoph spoke about the GDR's active contribution to the coordinated and agreed approach of the community of socialist states.

The premature withdrawal of Soviet missiles from the GDR and the CSSR met with a broad positive echo in the world as a gesture of goodwill. The GDR attaches great significance to the holding of an "international meeting for nuclear weapon free zones" 20-22 June this year in Berlin. The GDR regards an international exchange of views and experiences by leading representatives of governments and parliaments and by the broadest social circles on nuclear weapon free zones as highly in keeping with the times.

For his part, Janos Kadar affirmed that the Hungarian People's Republic fully supports the GDR initiatives. He spoke about the "three party initiative for cooperation by states not in possession of nuclear weapons in the interest of European disarmament", proposed by the MSZMP. Willi Stoph welcomed this initiative as an important contribution to international dialogue on security and disarmament between different political forces.

Both politicians stressed the GDR's and the Hungarian People's Republic's interest in a qualitative extension of bilateral cooperation. Regular meetings at the highest level, from which a decisive impetus for the further deepening of cooperation emanated, are of decisive importance for the development of relations. The heart of relations and their comprehensive, dynamic, and fruitful further development, is internationalist cooperation between the SED and the MSZMP. Further measures were pointed out for promoting constructive cooperation between state bodies and social organizations as well as many-sided direct contacts between factories and institutions.

The chairman of the GDR's Council of Ministers stressed the increasing significance of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. The stance of fulfillment of the "Long-term Program for Developing Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation up to the Year 2,000" was a point of emphasis in his talks with Karoly Grosz. The meetings of the planning bodies to prepare coordination of the economic plans for 1991-5 are extraordinarily important in this context.

At the same time, it is a matter of continuing cultural and scientific relations at the good level already achieved and to extend them qualitatively.

The meetings were held in a warm atmosphere characterized by mutual understanding and unanimity on all the issues discussed. Also attending the talks were Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers and member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo, as well as both countries' ambassadors, Karl-Heinz Lugenheim and Istvan Roska.

Communique Issued

LD302250 Budapest MTI in English 2005 GMT 30 Mar 88

"Communique on the visit of Willi Stoph to Budapest"— MTI headline]

[tExt] Budapest, March 30 (MTI)—At the invitation of Karoly Grosz, president of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic, Willi Stoph the president of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic made an official, friendly visit to Hungary on March 29-30. The head of government laid

wreath at the monument of the Hungarian heroes and had negotiations with his counterpart, Karoly Grosz.

The prime minister of the GDR met Janos Kadar, HSWP general secretary.

At the negotiations of cordial, friendly atmosphere with the identity of views the two premiers mutually briefed one another on the international situation of their countries, reviewed the development of the Hungarian-GDR relations and exchanged views on the major contemporary issues of the international situation.

Karoly Grosz spoke in detail on the economic-social advancement program, while Willi Stoph spoke on the governmental actions taken in the implementation of the decisions of the 11th Congress of the Socialist Unity Party and on the unity of economic and social policies. Agreement was reached that the condition for the development of the socialist society is the approach of the tasks in the spirit of renewal and in constructive ways.

Karoly Grosz and Willi Stoph concluded with content that the relations of the two countries develop in international spirit, according to the mutual friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance agreement which was renewed in 1977 and which serves reliably the construction of socialism in the Hungarian People's Republic and in the German Democratic Republic. The close cooperation and the regular meetings of the highest party and state leaders of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and the German Socialist Unity Party are of outstanding importance.

The joint report of the Hungarian-GDR economic and technical-scientific cooperation committee on the state of art of the long term cooperation program into 2000 was approved and positively evaluated. It was emphasized that for the elevation of the economic relations to a qualitatively higher level those joint programs are of great importance which are directed at the research, development, manufacturing and practical installation of high technology.

A distinguished attention is to be paid to the deepening of the manufacturing specialization and production cooperation in the interest of both sides and to the development of other advanced forms of cooperation—such as the direct contacts between the companies. It was emphasized that the HPR and the GDR is to contribute consistently and actively to the development of the economic integration within the framework of the CMEA, to the transformation of the mechanism of the organization, to the perfection of the operational forms and to the implementation of the technical-scientific comprehensive program into 2000.

Appreciation was expressed about the extensive and multifold cultural, educational and scientific cooperation of the two countries and about the existing and developing direct institutional contacts in these fields. It is their conviction that the cultural days to be organized in the GDR for Hungary in 1988 and for the GDR in Hungary in 1989 will promote the mutual accumulation of the knowledge of the two people on their mutual cultural values, progressive traditions, achievements in the socialist constructive work and this contributes to the deepening of the friendship. On the Hungarian side appreciation was expressed on the activity with which the GDR contributes to the teaching of the German language and the cultural supply of the German national minority in Hungary.

Touching on the international situation the two premiers concluded with content that substantial and favourable changes have taken place in the European and world politics. The historical importance of the Soviet-American summit of 1987 and the agreement on the scrapping of the medium and shorter range missiles was highlighted. Stand was taken along the consistent continuation of the disarmament process. They find it of especial importance to achieve as soon as possible an agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on the 50 per cent reduction of strategic offensive arms in compliance with the ABM agreement. The elaboration of the mandate of the negotiations to be held on the reduction of the European armed forces and conventional weapons and the start of the negotiations was urged.

The governments of the HPR and the GDR will also in the future make all efforts in order to amplify the favourable tendencies of the international relations, to consolidate the process of detente and to make it irreversible. In their view today the chances are good for making a turn in the disarmament and the states should, instead of increasing the arms race reduce their forces to a level what is sufficient for their security.

The interest and commitment of their countries was underlined in the carrying and deepening of the Helsinki process. The stance was taken that the Vienna follow-up talks should be completed with the approval of such a final document of merit which strengthens the European security and the all-European cooperation in the fields of politics, economics and humanitarian issues.

The importance of the new approach to the international relations was highlighted in which instead of confrontation the mutually advantageous cooperation is put in the center. In this context the importance of the constructive initiatives of the Warsaw Treaty member states was appreciated. They expressed hope that the joint proposal of the GDR and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on the creation of a nuclear and chemical weapon free zone in Middle-Europe and the joint initiative of the HSWP, the Finnish Social Democratic Party and the Italian Socialist Party for the active cooperation of non-nuclear weapons having states promotes the strengthening of the security in the continent and the cause of disarmament and peace.

Willi Stoph invited Karoly Grosz to visit the GDR, who accepted the invitation with appreciation.

Completes Talks, Departs

LD301733 Budapest MTI in English
1609 GMT 29 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 30 (MTI)—Willi Stoph, prime minister of the GDR, laid a wreath on the monument of Hungarian heroes at the Heroes' Square in Budapest on Wednesday with military honours. Then, as reported earlier, the delegations of Hungary and the GDR held official plenary talks in the parliament building.

The Hungarian negotiating group headed by Prime Minister Karoly Grosz included Jozsef Marjai, deputy prime minister and minister of trade, Gyula Horn, state secretary of foreign affairs, Lajos Berenyi, deputy president of the National Planning Office, Zoltan Gombocz, deputy minister of trade, and Istvan Roska, ambassador of Hungary to the GDR.

The negotiating group of the GDR headed by Prime Minister Willi Stoph included Wolfgang Rauchfuss, deputy prime minister, Bernhard Neugebauer, deputy foreign minister, Horst Tschanter, deputy chairman of the State Planning Commission, Dietrich Lemke, deputy foreign trade minister, and Karl-Heinz Lugenheim, ambassador of the GDR to Hungary.

According to the information of an MTI correspondent, the prime ministers gave briefs on the state of their countries and discussed topical tasks in socialist construction work. On this issue the parties attributed utmost importance to the structural modernization of the economy, the unfolding of scientific and technical development, and the balanced development of the national economy. The prime ministers also discussed the extension of socialist democracy which is at issue in both countries. The parties appreciated the endeavours for renewal of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Both sides stressed the important role played by the consideration of national features and the study of one another's experience in the development of socialist society.

Karoly Grosz and Willi Stoph established that bilateral contacts were developing in a balanced way and comprising almost all walks of social life, in compliance with the agreements of the prime ministerial meeting held in September 1986. The negotiating parties welcomed the expansion and strengthening of relations and expressed that the specific solutions applied in the two countries in compliance with the national features were expanding rather than narrowing the possibilities of cooperation.

Surveying topical international affairs, the parties focussed attention first of all to the initiatives for making further advance in the process of peace, security and cooperation in Europe.

In conclusion the sides discussed concrete issues of deepening bilateral cooperation, on which the members of the Hungarian and GDR delegation held also separate talks later in the day.

Jozsef Marjai, chairman of the Hungarian section of the Hungary-GDR Committee for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation, held talks with his counterpart Wolfgang Rauchfuss, co-chairman of the committee. The parties gave a favourable assessment of the work done in the framework of the committee in the recent period, and agreed to elaborate, on the basis of the achievements and agreements of the present prime ministerial talks, a plan of action for the coordination of tasks. Finally the parties discussed the programme of Hungarian days to be held in the capital of the GDR next April.

The talks between Gyula Horn and Bernhard Neugebauer were focussed on the initiatives of the socialist countries aimed at establishing a comprehensive system of security, and the issues on the agenda of the special UN session on disarmament to start late May. The sides also discussed the latest initiatives for promoting the expansion and consolidation of the disarmament process in Europe.

Lajos Berenyi and Horst Tschanter, deputy chairmen of the central planning organs of Hungary and the GDR, assessed the state of the long-term programme of developing bilateral economic, technical and scientific cooperation until the year 2000, and agreed on steps related to preparations for the coordination of national economic plans for the period 1991-1995. The parties surveyed the state of lasting production cooperation between the two countries' enterprises, and coordinated tasks in production specialization and cooperation.

Zoltan Gombocz and his counterpart Dietrich Lemke surveyed bilateral trade turnover. They stated with satisfaction that 90 per cent of the mutual deliveries worth almost 1,900 million roubles envisaged for this year have been covered by contracts which is a favourable proportion as compared to the similar period of the previous years. Surveying next year's trade targets, the sides focussed attention on the deliveries to be effected under cooperation and specialization deals.

Concluding his official friendship visit, Willi Stoph left Hungary in the afternoon. The prime minister of the GDR, his wife and the members of his party were seen off by Karoly Grosz, Jozsef Marjai and his wife, and Gyula Horn, at the Ferihegy Airport decorated with national flags. Present at the departure were Istvan Roska and Karl-Heinz Lugenheim.

Greek CP Delegation's Visit Concluded

LD310401 Budapest MTI in English
2120 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 30 (MTI)—Upon the invitation of the HSWP Central Committee Kharilaos Florakis, general secretary of the Greek Communist Party, made

an official visit to Hungary. He was accompanied by Spiros Stathakis, member of the CC of the Greek Communist Party and Dimos Foundalis, assistant of the press bureau of the CC.

Janos Kadar, HSWP general secretary met Kharilaos Florakis, who had negotiations with Matyas Szuros, secretary of the Central Committee, Geza Kotai, member of the Central Committee and head of the Foreign Affairs Department of the Central Committee and Bela Kovacs, head of the Party Economy and Business Administration Department of the Central Committee also met the guests. At the meetings they mutually briefed one another on the situation of their countries, the activities of their parties and their contemporary tasks. They exchanged views on the major issues of the international scene and the international communist and worker movement and reviewed the possibilities of further developing the relations between the HSWP and CPG.

The general secretary of the CPG visited County Bacs-Kiskun where he met county party First Secretary Miklos Szabo who briefed the guests on the life of the county. During its visit the delegation visited Szentendre and the "Obuda" AG-COOP and met the leaders of the cultural society of the Greeks in Hungary.

Kharilaos Florakis completed his official visit and left Budapest for Athens on Wednesday evening.

Foreign Minister Varkonyi Returns From Sofia

LD301545 Budapest MTI in English
1400 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 30 (MTI)—Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi, who had attended the Sofia session of the committee of foreign ministers of the Warsaw Treaty member countries, returned to Budapest on Wednesday.

Officials Discuss Bilateral Trade With SFRY

LD302025 Budapest MTI in English
1401 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 30 (MTI)—The sub-committee of trade of the Hungarian-Yugoslav Committee for Economic Cooperation held a session in Budapest March 29-30 with Imre Dunai, Hungarian deputy foreign trade minister, and Djordje Hadzimihajlovic, Yugoslav deputy foreign trade minister, in the chair.

The sides evaluated last year's achievements and surveyed progress in goods deliveries and the conclusion of trade agreements. The parties held discussions on the development of production cooperation that contributes a considerable part of trade turnover and set the tasks in further developing cooperation between the border regions.

'Abridged' Party Draft Policy Statement

LD310935 Budapest MTI in English
0005 GMT 31 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 31 (MTI)—The HSWP Central Committee approved in its March 23-24 session a draft policy statement that will be put forward to the national party conference next May. The document will be put to a debate within the party and the Central Committee also asked the social organizations and movements, and some institutions to give their opinion on the document that is carried by the Thursday issue of "NEPSZABADSAG". See here below an abridged form of the policy statement.

In the introductory part, the draft gives a summary of the resolution of the 13th HSWP Congress held in March 1985 and concludes that the goals set that time had not proved to be justified in all aspects. This was partly due to factors independent of us, but mainly to shortcomings in our own activity, the draft states.

We have given an incorrect assessment to the impact of world economic changes on the Hungarian economy. It was recognized belatedly that the acceleration of growth could not yield any result without structural transformation, and when the recognition appeared in the decisions, the practical steps were still not imbued by it. The 7th five-year plan gave simultaneous priority to more goals than were realistically attainable.

It became clear in the early eighties that the Hungarian economy could only achieve lasting results if the reform continued and the operational and management system of socialist commodity production were established. It hindered implementation that the reforms were not extended in due time to the other fields of social life.

Population of the country is displaying increasing discontent with the halting of economic and social development and the multiplying difficulties. Beside the realistic assessment of the situation and readiness for action, there exists pessimism and disappointment. Unfounded and unrealistic ideas are also gaining ground. The Central Committee and its executive organs, the government and its institutions are responsible for all this, the document says.

Then the document recalls that the Central Committee declared the necessity of a turn in its november 1986 resolution, and worked out a programme of economic and social advance in July 1987. On the basis of the latter document, the government elaborated a work programme of stabilization and started to renew governmental work.

It is indispensable for our progress and the prosperity of the nation to accelerate the reform processes in all walks of life, to continue to renew the operation of the system of economic and political institutions in a coordinated way, and to help unfold the creativity of society.

Advance and the elimination of difficulties require the party to fulfil its leading role through ideological and political means, the strengthening of people's power, and the improvement of the operation of state and economic and social organs. The scope of authority and responsibility of, and division of labour between the various institutions should be determined more exactly and openness should become more comprehensive. Decentralization of decision-making should be coupled with the introduction of elements of self-government and self-management. The spontaneous contribution of citizens and communities to solving the problems of society and their own should grow in all walks of social life.

This is the way of creating social and political conditions for implementing the programme of advance and attaining our direct goals: Halting the deterioration of external and internal balance, economic renewal, extending socialist democracy, preserving and enriching the cultural assets of the nation and improving public morals. This may make it possible to maintain full and efficient employment, pay incomes according to performance, curb inflation and preserve the real value of earnings and pensions.

Then the document discusses the role of the party.The party should fulfil its leading role by concentrating its activity on developing social relations, determining the fundamental principles serving the protection of the socialist system and legality, setting the directions of national economic development, influencing the intellectual and ideological life of society, elaborating our foreign policy principles and goals and developing international relations. The party should not assume the scope of tasks of the state and social organizations. It should assert its leading role through the joint work of its members and all its organizations and organs.

The structure and operation of the party are based upon the principle of democratic centralism. In the period between two congresses the Central Committee passes decisions on issues concerning society and the party as a whole. We support a practice which guarantees, along an improvement in central direction, the participation of regional and workplace party organs in policy-making, and increases their independence and responsibility.

Direction is exercised by elected bodies everywhere. The apparatus has to organize and promote decision-making and the implementation of decisions under the instructions of the elected bodies.

The system of elections within the party should be developed. The directing party committees should not influence with preliminary instructions the branch organizations and the lower party organs in electing their leadership and office-holders. The practice of nominating more candidates should widen and secret elections be held at all levels. The branch organizations and lower party organs should be allowed to elect a certain proportion of the members of the leading Party committees directly. If required, the delegating organs should be authorized to initiate the release of the members of the party committees. The new system of party elections should be introducing during the preparations for the 14th congress.

Discussing the issue of party unity, the policy statement emphasizes that the party's ideological, political and organizational unity as well as its unity of action must be continually re-established. The communists should openly express their opinion and raise their doubts at the party forums. Those who put forward the proposals should also expound the opinion of the minority. Outside the competent party forums, the party members should not voice opinions differing in spirit from the adopted resolutions, and should not organize groups and factions to support their dissenting opinion. The holders of minority opinions are entitled, within the party, to ask for the change of a previous decision. However, as long as a resolution remains in effect, they are obliged to implement it.

The party members are obliged to represent the party's position in public. An information system is required in which the party members are kept well-informed on the underlying causes of decisions and resolutions, and on the tasks.

Decision-making should be accelerated and, if possible, drafts including more alternatives elaborated. The regional, institutional and workplace party committees should give their opinion on the major proposals in advance and the ideas related to issues of utmost importance should be discussed by all members of the party. The branch organizations are entitled to initiate the discussion of issues, deemed by them as necessary, by upper party organs. The personal political responsibility of those participating in the implementation of decisions should be asserted. Control of implementation should also examine whether the correctness of the policy and the various resolutions is justified by practice. The experiences gained in control should be made public. The Central Committee, the government and, if required, the regional party and Council organs should be supported by consultative and advisory bodies.

Discussing cadre work, the draft policy statement emphasizes that the main measure of evaluating the leaders should be the success of their work. The practice of filling jobs through competition, appointing leaders for a specified duration of time and nominating more candidates should be widened. Mutual representation should be reduced within the leading party, state and social organs. Further steps should be made to decentralize the cadres's scope of authority and reduce the number of posts belonging to the authority of upper party organs. The Central Committee resolution which declared in 1986 that some posts can be filled for at most two cycles by the same person should be extended to the

president and secretary of the Central Control Committee and the secretaries of regional and local party committees. The beginning of the two cycles should be counted from the 13th congress and then from the date of election.

The draft also discusses the consistent continuation and renewal of the policy of alliances. The non-Marxist ideas are also taken into account and constructive criticism and proposals regarded as important propelling forces of advance. The ideas differing from the party's position are evaluated according to their merit and content. The document holds it necessary for the party organs, the institutions of people's power and the bodies of social organizations to dissociate themselves with clear arguments from what is incompatible with the socialist principles.

The majority of our people see the future of the nation in the construction of socialist society. At the same time an increase of bourgeois, conservative and anti-socialist views prevails, and political and ideological indifference is also experienced in public thinking. The solution of the tasks we face requires a renewal in ideological work.

The theoretical workshops and scholars should comprehensively analyse the economic and social processes and the domestic and international experiences of socialist development, and draw general and principled conclusions.

The party organs and organizations should regularly put on their agenda and answer the questions concerning the party members.

The party organizations, institutions and members should take a stand against the views opposing the necessity of socialist reforms and innovation. They should dispel illusions towards the capitalist system and oppose voluntarist manifestations.

The party holds its task to foster the cultural heritage of the nation, to strengthen national awareness, affiliation to the Hungarian people and patriotism coupled with readiness for action, and to restore the prestige of traditional moral values. Values, such as individual initiatives, an enterprising and innovating spirit, and assumption of responsibility are playing a growing role in attaining our aims.

In the following the document discusses the further development of the system of political institutions.

The principles, means and menthods of the party guidance of state life have to be modernized and enriched. The party should influence the operation of the state organizations, mainly through the communists working there, and should enforce its political standpoints.

Alongside legislation, the National Assembly should have a greater role in social interest coordination, in controlling government work, and in determining its frameworks. The party member representatives in the organs of people's representation should enforce the policy of the party with convincing arguments.

The document initiates to amend the constitution. The means of practicing civic rights and obligations, the enforcement of the rights of spontaneous organizing, assembly, and union, and the guarantees of safeguarding the individual and community rights have to be determined. Further development of the law on our electoral system should make the genuine participation of various organizations, communities of citizens, interest representations and labour organizations possible in the selection of candidates. A law should be framed on the application of national and local (?plebicites). The economic autonomy of councils should be increased.

The role of social organizations and movements should increase in the preparation of political and state decisions, laws and other legal measures, and in creating the institutional and spontaneous forms of democratic community life.

The trade unions should provide genuine opportunities for their membership to express and coordinate their interests. We support the efforts which aim at improving the political and legal conditions of the interest representation activity of the trade unions, and at streamlining the movement.

The party relies on the Patriotic People's Front in having its most important goals approved, in winning its allies, and in establishing social agreement. At the same time it takes into consideration the political and world outlook diversity which the movement embodies.

The party considers it necessary for the Communist Youth Union of Hungary (KISZ) to participate in the preparation of socio-political decisions, and requires that it work out independent proposals if affairs concerning young people. At the same time, the party should devote greater attention to winning over young people, and to moderating the inequality of social chances.

In the future, we shall increasingly rely on the social organizations, movements, federations and unions which exert their activity in the various areas of social life. All local, territorial, national organizations, unions, which operate within the frameworks of socialist legality have a place in our society. Laws should set down the rules of enforcing interests.

An important condition of expanding and perfecting socialist democracy is social publicity. Information on state and political decisions should be improved.

The party press should mainly create the publicity of the activity of the party.

The party, with the means and methods of principled management, should strengthen its political influence in the mass media. The state and social organs and unions which set up and maintain newspapers should accept total political, professional, moral and financial responsibility for their publications.

The tasks defined in the programme for economic and social advance are in the focus of the party's economic policy.

We support the use of all means which compel producing companies to take market laws into consideration, and which promote the suitable flow of social capital and manpower to more efficient areas.

State and cooperative property are determining in our multi-sector economic system, and this shall not change in the future.

We support ventures of joint ownership, private activity, and all initiatives which serve to increase national income and improve the living conditions of the population, and the enrichment of our socialist values. In this interest, we shall expand the operation opportunities of the various property forms, and ensure the appropriate organizational frameworks for their varied combinations.

A new association law is necessary. The founding of joint ventures, the increased inclusion of private ventures and foreign working capital should be encouraged, and the collective proprietory interestedness strengthened.

The economic reform should be further continued. Economic management should make it possible for the participants of economy to work under conditions valid for a longer range.

The National Economic Plan should increasingly become the means of coordinating fundamental economic policy goals, enforcing the desired proportions, and forecasting and influencing the major economic processes.

A comprehensive wages reform is needed alongside the changes of the price system. Implementation of this makes it possible to better coordinate the performances and earnings.

We calculate with the fact that social tensions will remain, and increase in certain areas, particularly in the period of stabilization. The easing of these, their equitable treatment, and the resolution of the contradictions of the distribution system should mainly be carried out with the means of state social-welfare policy.

Transforming the structure of economy makes a greater movement of manpower unavoidable, however, lasting and mass unemployment cannot be accepted even in the knowledge of this. The fate of persons remaining without jobs requires institutional assistance. It is justified to examine the possibility of the state guaranteeing a minimal level of supply.

By establishing the uniform system of social-welfare policy it should be attained that the health of the population improve, that the family burdens of child raising be eased. Genuine value and cast relations should increasingly be enforced in home building and housing management. The retaining of the population in smaller settlements should be increased with a more proportionate territory development.

Intellectuals, intellectual work that creates values are decisive factors of social and economic progress. This should be expressed in the appropriate political, financial and moral appreciation of knowledge and performance. The party wishes to particularly rely on scientific research. Support for basic research, the company utilization of scientific results are important from the point of view of social development. The educational system should be better adapted to the structural and territorial changes of employment, the content of education should be modernized.

In view of the mechanical enforcement of the market features of economic life, and also the delay in the comprehensive reform of the cultural area, inferior, ideologically confused works and productions lacking good taste have gained ground in the cultural offer to the detriment of values. A shift in the favourable direction should be achieved also in this field, mainly through the radical streamlining of the system of conditions and institutions of cultural and educational policy.

The renewal process emerging in the socialist countries provides favourable conditions for the attainment of our social and economic goals. The socialist world has entered a new stage in its development. This stage is characterized by the critical and self-critical facing of reality, and adaptation to the new requirements of realism and development. It follows from the historical role of the Soviet Union and its place in international politics, that perestroyka today does not simply mean the transformation process burdened with conflicts taking place there, but has become a notion of world political significance that also expresses social progress.

The changes that have begun in the Soviet Union, China, and the other countries of the socialist world system raise new questions. The renewal processes strengthen the positions of socialism in the peaceful competition of the social systems, and assist the achievement of detente. Our country, in accordance with our possibilities, is one of the initiators and participants of this process.

An increased and efficient participation in the international processes, in the international division of labour, and in scientific and technical and financial cooperation is a question of vital importance for our country.

The friendly relation established with the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty, the CMEA, and with the socialist countries in general is the important international background of our domestic work. We strive to streamline and renew the content and organization of the bilateral and many-sided cooperation maintained with them, we draw from their experience—stresses, among other things, the part of the document reviewing the international connections.

The document also notes that about one-third of Hungarians live beyond the borders of the country, most of them in the neighboring socialist countries, and citizens of other nationalities also live in Hungary in a smaller number. The document stresses: The minorities, irrespective of which country they live in, justly require assistance to safeguard their mother language, develop their culture, and foster their relations towards the mother country. It is necessary that the prejudices inherited from the past be continuously eliminated, and that understanding, confidence and cooperation between the neighboring peoples strengthen.

The draft policy statement stresses: We are interested in easing the increasingly serious social and economic problems of the developing world, and the peaceful settlement of dangerous local crises. We endeavour to safeguard and further develop our cooperation with all countries. We increase our efforts to reduce East-West tensions, to promote the balance of power on a lower level of armaments, dialogue and cooperation, with the aim of easing the universal problems of our divided, but interdependent world.

In the concluding part the document notes: The most important vital issue of our age is to make the operation of our social system rational, efficient and successful, and to find socialist solutions that accord to the Hungarian conditions to the new issues of development.

Lazar Says Political Restructuring Not Needed

LD310714 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Gyorgy Lazar, Deputy general secretary of the MSZMP, has declared that in our homeland the system of political institutions does not need radical restructuring. What is needed is for the tasks, role and responsibility of the party, the state and society to be delineated more clearly than up to now.

Gyorgy Lazar, after his 1-day visit to Somogy County, said at an aktiv meeting in Kaposvar that he considered it important for the party to exercise its leading role with political and organizational means so that it can concentrate on the main direction of building socialism.

NEPZAVA Analyzes Labor Market Trends

AU301822 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 29 Mar 88 p 4

[Article by Pal Molnar: "Advantage to Knowledge—Smaller Selection on the Labor Market"]

[Text] Unskilled workers do not have the opportunity to choose. This is the situation that has developed on the domestic labor market. Whereas a year ago on the national average, an unskilled worker was able to choose a job out of three available jobs, today only one job is available to him, and this might not be nearby. At the end of 1987, 60 percent of the 7,020 jobs for unskilled workers offered by the labor exchange offices were in Budapest, and in Csongrad and Bacs-Kiskun Counties. Out of the 6,041 people looking for such a job, however, every second person was registered in one of the following four counties: Baranya, Borsod, Szabolcs, and Szolnok. There is, therefore, no geographical accord between supply and demand.

Professional Workers Are Sought [subhead]

A recent statement by the Information Center on Labor Affairs at the State Office for Wages and Labor demonstrates the durability of and increase in previous tendencies. The number of offered jobs is decreasing and the number of people seeking jobs is increasing. Nearly 47,000 job vacancies were registered and they comprise only three quarters of the number of vacancies in 1987. The number of people seeking a job who were not employed, however, reached almost 11,000 at the time of the survey was at the end of 1987; that is, their number increased by almost 70 percent in 1 year.

The mere numbers demonstrate that the difficulties of finding a job are increasing. Almost 900 people have been waiting for jobs for more than 3 months, which is twice as many as in 1987. Almost one half of them have been waiting for a job for more than half a year, and the number is increasing.

The Information Center on Labor Affairs covers an increasingly growing proportion of the manpower market and the people seeking employment are requiring more help from labor exchange offices. In the last quarter of 1987, more than 40,000 people applied to employment-finding bodies. According to statistical data, on the average there are 4-5 job opportunities for every unemployed person who is seeking a job; this could be close to the state of affairs on the entire labor market. On the basis of bare averages, therefore, a person looking for employment has an advantage over those who are looking for workers. That is, such a person has the opportunity to choose. In specific cases, however, supply and demand considerably differ from each other not only geographically, but also in the nature of the job.

Professional workers were needed in almost one half of the vacant jobs, and even so, demand dropped by 8,000 within 12 months. Every fourth "available" job offered is for semi-skilled work. Within the entire job market, the proportion of jobs for unskilled workers only amounted to 15 percent. More than one quarter of the jobs offered to white-collar workers required technological skills.

It is quite striking that the employers' demand is almost exclusively for full-time work. There are less than 1,000 part-time jobs. The majority of the jobs involving work at home are in Budapest and in Pest County. There are reasons which would justify extending these forms of employment.

Almost one half of the registered demands comes from industry; this can be partly the reason that mainly men—professional men—are in demand. The professions in which there are shortages of workers remain the same from one quarter to the other: engine fitters, and sewing machine workers and manual dressmakers, for whom demand hardly decreases at all. In addition, masons, metal cutters, welders, electrical fitters, and truck and bus drivers continue to be in demand. The fact that women's opportunities to find employment had been decreasing since the drop in the demand for manpower is partly a result of the abovementioned situation.

4,500 Women [subhead]

Almost 60 percent of the manpower supply—that is, of the nearly 11,000 people who registered and who were not employed—is only suitable for unskilled work. (As has already been mentioned, 15 percent of the demand refers to such workers.) Their number has increased by 2,500—that is, by 70 percent—within 1 year!

Some 60 percent of the people seeking employment are men, and this proportion, therefore, take on most of the unskilled jobs. It is a noteworthy fact that the majority of the 4,500 registered women—similar to the large majority of the more than 6,000 registered men—also were looking for unskilled jobs. The fact that women are a majority of the people seeking semi-skilled and white collar employment is more in harmony with the situation on the manpower market.

In the fourth quarter of 1987, 16 percent of the clients of the labor exchange offices had not had jobs before. In other words, the number of people who were previously household workers, of people at the beginning of their careers, and even of students, too, multiplied two- and threefold within 1 year. The number of people at the beginning of their career—which amounted to 943—quite large. This demonstrates that finding employment for students who have just graduated from school is more difficult than before. They have particularly small chances of finding employment in Borsod, Szolnok, and Szabolcs Counties!

New Jobs Are Needed! [subhead]

More than 500 pensioners were on the list of people waiting for jobs at the end of 1987; the number of these pensioners increased by one third in 1 year. Their prospects are quite grim, because enterprises which are attempting to achieve efficiency are cutting back on primarily this type of positions. This is also demonstrated by the fact that the number of jobs for pensioners amounted to 129, the smallest number since the information system began operation.

One can gather from these processes that we can count on increasingly growing tensions in the manpower market. From the point of view of people seeking employment, this is a problem. But from the overall economic point of view, this can be considered a good sign. Efficiency is gaining ground in the thinking of the economic managers. The difficulties could also be solved by temporary pseudo-solutions, if we made the economic units interested in diluting or "padding" their staff. This practice, however, caused heavy moral and economic damage in recent decades. What remains is the other, real solution: the creation of jobs through viable ventures. For this, however, we must establish a "venture-supportive" atmosphere: Good entrepreneurs should not be surrounded by suspicion and they should feel that the means they have invested and their work are safe.

Briefs

Mixed Enterprise

A mixed Swedish-Hungarian pharmaceutical enterprise named Psoricur Ltd. was established on 24 March. The enterprise was established with a basic capital of 1 million Swiss francs by the Swedish Intrade Invest Enterprise which has a 50 percent share in it, and the General Securities Bank [Altalanos Ertekforgalmi Bank] and by the Medicor Enterprise, which each have a 25 percent share in it. The new enterprise will begin producing various medicines and pharmaceutical products. [Text] [*AU301601 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 25 Mar 88 p 6*]

Sofia Appeal Called 'Greatly Significant'

LD302124 Warsaw PAP in English
2045 GMT 30 Mar 88

["Destination: Military Openness (by PAP Commentator Andrzej Rayzacher)"—PAP headline]

[Text] Warsaw, March 30: The Sofia appeal addressed from foreign ministers of the Warsaw-Treaty member-states to NATO countries and to all the CSCE states-signatories is a greatly significant and extremely interesting document.

It is worthwhile to acquaint oneself with its non-trite contents since it outlines a new direction of the debate on military aspects of international security. The destination here is maximum publicity and openness of military information.

Considering the fact that the offer has been put forward by countries with a long tradition of surrounding military issues with the finest veil of secrecy, it is not difficult to perceive the importance of the Sofia document.

The appeal proposes to reach, as soon as possible and at the Group-23 forum made up of Warsaw-Treaty and NATO representatives, an agreement on a mandate of negotiations on reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals, so that they could start as early as this year.

A soon exchange of data on armed forces and conventional armaments between the states of the two European military alliances would encourage a fast course for those talks.

The Sofia document emphasizes that the Warsaw-Treaty countries are ready to reveal in the course of the negotiations and subsequently to eliminate under the principle of reciprocity asymmetry and disproportion, should they exist.

The Sofia appeal contains an important expansion of one of the key point of the Jaruzelski Plan. While offering representatives of Europe's two alliances to compare their respective military doctrines, the document stresses that the political layer is not the only issue, and the point here includes also military and technical aspects.

It is an extremely significant step on the path towards such a revision of operational and tactical directives as well as of those assumptions which define deployment and armament of combat units of the two alliances' armed forces that would make the doctrines assume a strictly defensive course.

The document's authors underscore the need to increase the possibilities to predict events and trends in the military domain, which they propose to reach by means of indispensable information flow and establishment of a close-ended and effective system of undertaken obligations' control and verification. It is in this that they envisage a premise for further curing of the situation on the European Continent.

Orzechowski Comment

LD302234 Warsaw Television Service in Polish
1730 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] Minister, you returned from Sofia a moment ago. I do not deny that official communiques on the meeting were rather terse. Could you acquaint us some more in your own words with issues raised by the Sofia meeting?

[Begin recording] [Foreign Minister Orzechowski identified by caption] They were terse but quite long, and I have very little time. Firstly, this was the first meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Committee of our treaty, our community, since the Washington agreement. The question is: What happens next? Will it be the first step on the path to real disarmament? Will it be followed by more such steps, or will, for example, the concept of replacing intermediate-range missiles in Europe with other armaments prevail?

We considered what our further strategy should be, what subsequent steps should be proposed in the area of both nuclear and general disarmament. Europe was the focus of attention; Europe, conventional disarmament, the creation of security measures, and the creation of confidence-building measures in Europe. This in fact was the most important sense of the Sofia meeting of foreign ministers.

I would like, in anticipation, to emphasize some points. Our initiative, the Jaruzelski Plan, is supported very strongly in the documents. The plan is already entering the bloodstream, so to speak, of European political life and the thinking about Europe's security.

Another very important matter to us is the respecting of political and territorial realities as the foundation for the creation of a secure and cooperating Europe. [end recording]

Wick Visits Medical Facilities, Death Camps

AU301238 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
28 Mar 88 p 2

[Text] PAP—Charles Wick, head of USIS, who is visiting our country, toured Krakow and Oswiecim [Auschwitz] on 27 March.

Our U.S. guest visited the Prokocim Pediatric Institute of the Krakow Medical Academy and the Outpatient Center of Medical Treatment for Children, which is under construction. Both the institute and the center are gifts of the U.S. Foundation called Project Hope.

C. Wick also viewed the state collection of arts in Wawel Castle.

In the afternoon, the head of the USIS went to the German death camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau in Oswiecim-Brzezinka and viewed, among other things, the exhibits illustrating the enormity of the crimes committed by German fascists in Auschwitz.

Paying homage to the 4 million Auschwitz victims, Charles Wick placed wreaths of flowers under the Wall of Death in Death Block 11 and under the International Monument to the Victims of Fascism in Brzezinka [Birkenau].

"It is hard to believe all you can see here," the U.S. guest told PAP journalists. "Auschwitz. It is good that the Polish authorities have done everything to preserve this place in this state so the revisionists will never be able to assert that what happened here did not really happen."

PAP Notes Jacek Kuron's VOA Interview

LD302249 Warsaw PAP in English
2101 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Warsaw, March 30—The Voice of America radio station broadcast for two days running, March 25 and 26, an interview in Polish with Jacek Kuron. The interview was dominated by Kuron's doleful deliberations and frustrations resulting from the fact that hitherto structures of the Solidarnosc were outdated and that the Polish population lacked more ambitious goals since they did not want to let themselves be conned by people like Kuron into fighting for materialization of the goals.

The Voice of America recalls Kuron's saying that "at the times when the opposition or independent organizations had been most dynamic in Poland, their activists did not go for half-measures and demanded more ambitious goals than those that could be achieved at the moment." And today.

Thus, Kuron wonders how to encourage the society to an open fight, regardless of costs, for materialization of more general goals "that people used to fight for". But nowadays, "it would be difficult to organize as little as a movement for all-Poland pay rises" because "a major part of the population are afraid of more empty shelves (in shops)" which might reappear as a result of "common, mass demonstrations".

Even staking on the impatience of the young who can be sometimes manipulated into bloody demonstrations is nothing but a pipe-dream for Kuron himself admits that more dynamic youth do not like establishment at all, be it Solidarnosc or any other establishment.

Here Kuron confesses with disarming honesty: "What is more, again the youth's characteristics is impatience. They think that we have f—— it all up."

And here it is the Voice of America that is right when its representatives adds: "According to the young, neither the Solidarnosc nor any church organizations offered anything to the youth and this is also the reason why they are not too eager to join these organizations".

OPZZ Council Opens 2-Day Session

LD302022 Warsaw PAP in English
1628 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Warsaw, March 30—The Council of the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions (OPZZ) started its two-day session today with a view to assessing the implementation of resolutions of the Congress of Reborn Polish Trade Unions.

The fundamental question for trade unions has been to maintain the living standards of the working people, the meeting stressed.

The meeting reaffirmed the firm support of the trade union movement for the consistent materialization of the economic reform. That is why trade unions received with interest the announcement of possible special measures in this respect. It stressed, however, that such activities cannot violate either the powers of trade unions or enterprises' self-management.

Ministers Address Council

LD310357 Warsaw PAP in English
2142 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Warsaw, March 30—Problems of prices, incomes and costs of living dominated the first day of an All-Poland Trade Unions Aliance's (OPZZ) two-day session which opened here today, chaired by Alfred Miodowicz. The OPZZ Council also reviewed results of negotiations with the government on this year's prices and incomes policy.

The session resolved that the basic point was to at least maintain the level of living standard.

Trade unions are in favour of acceleration of the pace of reforming as well as of harsh, but effectiveness-oriented and just principles of tax policy. They speak in favour of law and order that would be based upon the existing, normal legislation. Thus, amendments to the labour code must not be reduced to curing the economy at the expense of employee's and trade unions' prerogatives, said the session's participants.

While presenting the results of negotiations with the government on the Council's January declaration of stance, OPZZ Vice-Chairman Waclaw Martyniuk said that some of the Council's postulates had been met partially or had not been met at all. This holds true, primarily, for levying a threshold and individual tax formula on the pay fund.

Trade unions regard the family benefit as an issue which requires correction.

"We have listened attentively," Martyniuk said, "to the proposals of taking extraordinary measures in order to effectively introduce the economic reforms. We would like these measures to consolidate the position of trade unions, to allow for a systematic growth of socialized economy employees', pensioners' and disability benefit recipients' real income, as well as to result in a quantitative and qualitative growth of goods and services supply to the market and in halting the inflation process."

Invited guests replied to unionists' claims and charges. Minister of Labour and Social Policy Ireneusz Sekula said that after the government's recent extra decisions there was no pension or disability benefit that would not grow by at least 6 thousand zlotys or by 36 per cent. Should the price growth exceed the planned figures, correctional measures will have to be taken.

Minister of Finance Bazyli Samojlik said that his ministry engaged the entire control apparatus in order not to allow the rises to exceed the pre-planned average indicators and to make them be introduced gradually.

Some 80 per cent of the total value of goods and services supplies were encompassed by either direct or indirect control, Samojlik said. For the time being, the findings do not seem to corroborate the speculation that the planned global 1988 price growth indicator might be threatened, but definite data on this year's first four months will be known only by the end of April.

Detailed documents on practical application of tax formulas on over-normative renumeration are to be published next week, the finance minister promised. The main function of this tax is to adjust wages to enterprises' financial capacity.

ZSL Congress Defines Tasks, Activities

AU311221 Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 29 Mar 88 p 2

["ZSL Tasks in Solving Problems of the Development of Poland, Rural Areas, and Agriculture—Theses"]

[Text] The 10th ZSL Congress confirms the validity of the ideological declaration and of the program of the ZSL adopted by the Ninth ZSL Congress. The following resolution, which defines the most important tasks and activities in the next few years, supplements that declaration and program.

—The coming years will be a difficult test for the authorities and people. If we are unable to quickly adapt our economy to economic requirements, we will have to face domestic conflicts and Poland's deteriorated position in the world.

—The ZSL Congress declares that the consolidation of the constitutional, political, legal, economic, and ethical conditions for Poland's further development calls for drawing up a new PPR constitution. The ZSL will present its own proposals on this.

—We are for tangible improvements in the profits of rural areas not later than this year and for a parity of incomes in the next 3 years.

—The rate of increases in food investments should at least equal this rate throughout the economy and should be higher in the food industry and in the industries producing production equipment for agriculture than in the area of material production.

—The congress is in favor of more rapidly achieving balanced prices in the food market as a result of the second stage of economic reform. It is also in favor of curbing and changing the system of subsidies. This change should involve a departure from subsidizing consumption in favor of subsidies for production.

—The congress states that it is necessary to regionalize farm policy, and that the government should draw up a comprehensive program for this regionalization not later than this year.

—It is necessary to fully realize the rural programs for land reclamation, water supplies, and electrification.

—We are for accelerating the installation of telephones in rural areas and we propose to set up a fund for introducing gas and telephones in these areas.

—Coal supplies to rural areas and agriculture must be thoroughly and speedily solved.

—The congress states that it is necessary to update the systems of social insurance for farmers and their families.

—The congress also regards it as desirable to ensure the necessary state funds to meet the needs of education and health and supports the setting up of the social and cultural funds for rural areas.

Further on Meeting of Grand National Assembly

Agenda for Meeting Endorsed

AU301113 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0800 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] The proceedings of the seventh session of the ninth legislature of the Grand National Assembly opened today in Bucharest. On their arrival, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and Comrade Elena Ceausescu were received with prolonged applause by deputies and guests. The following agenda was unanimously adopted:

1. The State Council report on the fulfillment of the national uniform plan for the socioeconomic development of the SR of Romania in the first quarter and measures to ensure the fulfillment of the plan in the second quarter and the entire period of 1988.

2. Draft bill on perfecting the economic and financial mechanism by improving the price-setting system.

3. Draft bill on perfecting the remuneration system to stimulate the production for export and exports themselves.

4. Draft bill on concluding and implementing economic contracts.

5. Report on the state of violations in 1987, on conclusions drawn from applying amnesty decrees and shortening sentences, as well as on the activity of trial commissions.

6. Report on applying the law on wealth control.

7. Draft bill on endorsing the project that includes norms with the power of law which have been issued by the State Council.

The proceedings of the session continue.

Proceedings Open

AU301313 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1240 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 30/3/1988—On 30 March, attended by RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu, president of Romania, the seventh session of the ninth Grand National Assembly opened proceedings.

Alongside President Nicolae Ceausescu, standing in the official boxes were members of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP and members of the State Council.

By the side of the deputies, also in the hall were members of the CC of the RCP and the government, heads of central institutions, mass and public organizations, representatives of the working people, of the scientific and cultural life.

Present were heads of diplomatic mission accredited in Romania as well as foreign press correspondents.

Proceedings were opened by Nicolae Giosan, chairman of the Grand National Assembly.

Upon the proposal of the Bureau of the Grand National Assembly, the deputies passed the following agenda:

— Council of Ministers report on the implementation of the single national plan of economic and social development of the Socialist Republic of Romania over the first quarter and the measures for implementing the plan for the second quarter of and the entire year 1988;

— Bill on improving the economic and financial mechanism by improving the price-formation system;

— Bill on improving the remuneration system in order to stimulate the production meant to be exported and the exports;

— The bill on concluding and implementing the economic contracts;

— Report on the state of the crimes in 1987, the conclusions resulting from the application of the decrees covering the amnesty of certain deeds and the diminishing of certain punishments, as well as on the activity of the trial commissions.,

— Report on the application of the law on wealth control;

— Bills on approving the decrees carrying norms with power of law, issued by the State Council;

Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu read the Council of Ministers report included in the agenda.

Next, presentations were made of: the bill on improving the economic and financial mechanism by improving the price-formation system, by Neculai Ibanescu, deputy prime minister; the bill on improving the remuneration system in order to stimulate the production meant to be exported and the exports, by Lina Ciobanu, deputy prime minister; The bill on concluding and implementing the economic contracts, by Ion Dinca, first deputy prime minister. Then a report drawn by the permanent commissions on these bills was read, after which general debates started in plenum over the Council of Ministers report and the three bills.

Next, Maria Bobu, minister of justice, presented the report regarding the state of the crimes in 1987, the conclusions resulting from the application of the decrees covering the amnesty of certain deeds and the diminishing of certain punishments, as well as on the activity of the trial commissions, and Ion Radu, chairman of the

Central Council of the Workers' Control Over the Economic and Social Activity read the report on the application of the stipulations of the law on wealth control.

Proceedings continue.

Ministers Report on Bills

AU301817 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1655 GMT 30 Mar 88

["Memoranda of the Bills"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 30/03/1988—Empowered by the government, Neculai Ibanescu, deputy prime minister, presented the Grand National Assembly [GNA] the bill on perfecting the economic-financial mechanism by improving the price-formation system.

In accordance with the bill provisions, the production prices applicable starting April 15, 1988 will be set in terms of the production costs planned in 1988—as high limit impossible to be exceeded—and of a differentiated profitability depending on the products' destination.

The profitability of the products for home consumption is to be of 6-12 per cent, 8 per cent on an average. In order to stimulate the production for export it was envisaged that the exported products be more profitable than home consumption, namely 10 per cent with convertible currency-based deliveries and 6 per cent with clearing-based deliveries to socialist countries.

The bill provisions stimulate the enterprises to act for the reduction of production costs above the planned level, because the additional profit thus obtained remains at their disposal, entirely in the first year and half of it in the next four years, to be used in accordance with the law.

The speaker emphasized that the profits had to grow not by increasing the prices but by reducing consumptions, production expenses.

Specifying that these measures are experimentally applied in 1988 and on the basis of conclusions the law be completed and submitted to the Grand National Assembly till the end of the year, the speaker emphasized the stimulative character of the provisions of the new normative act.

Another measure for the improvement of the economic-financial mechanism refers to the stimulation of production for export and of export. The memorandum presented by Deputy Prime Minister Lina Ciobanu on the bill of improved payment system to stimulate the production for export and the export shows that the new measures provide higher incomes for the working people who turn out the production for export, by increasing the payment fund thus giving additional incentives.

The additional payment fund to stimulate export is to be set up by each enterprise and industrial central department to which tasks are assigned under the plan for the export production, differentiated as follows: Ten per cent of the payment fund planned for the marketable production meant for export in convertible currency and six per cent of the payment fund planned for the marketable production meant for export in clearing, to socialist countries.

The amounts which account for the incentives for export production are tax-free and to be given aside from the overall-agreement-based payment and the other payment rights set according to the law. The bill stipulates that the new stimulative measures be experimentally applied this year starting April 15, and the conclusions drawn from the experimental application be submitted to the Grand National Assembly till the end of this year.

Presenting the Grand National Assembly (the country's parliament) the bill regarding the conclusion and fulfilment of economic contracts, First Deputy Prime Minister Ion Dinca showed that it is based on the self-management and self-financing principles with a view to strengthening the responsibility of worker collectivities and collective management bodies, developing state and cooperative socialist property, setting economic relations on the basis of norms and normatives, fundamental in point of technics and technology.

The bill envisages the obligation to contract home production according to the plan indicators approved under the decree of the State Council.

It also stipulates the obligation to conclude contracts with foreign partners so that, when the annual plan is approved, its provisions referring to the production for export and international economic cooperation ventures be based on contracts apt to provide for goods sales and technical and material supply.

The bill also contains regulations on the course of economic relations in the delivery of products, the performance of operations or services only on a contract basis, the ensurance of payments, each unit's obligation to observe the stock norms set, the prohibition of the manufacture of products which have not their selling in the home or foreign market guaranteed, the parties' responsibility for the delivery of products in the quantities and at the quality set as well as for the observance of the other obligations assumed under the contract.

More particularly, the bill regulates the supply contract. For the equipment, machinery, installations and other complex deliveries for the achievement of which several units cooperate, the rule has been instituted that the beneficiary should conclude the contract with the general supplier.

Bills, Resolutions Endorsed

AU301900 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1824 GMT 30 Mar 88

["Session of the Grand National Assembly"—AGERPRES headline]

[Excerpts] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 30/3/1988—On 30 March, attended by RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu, president of Romania, the seventh session of the Ninth Grand National Assembly [GNA] was held. [passage omitted]

Regarding the problems debated at the first item on the agenda, the deputies unanimously adopted the resolution of the Grand National Assembly on the fulfilment of the socioeconomic development plan for the second term and the whole year 1988.

After the articles of each bill debated were discussed, the Grand National Assembly unanimously adopted: the law of perfecting the economic-financial mechanism by improving the price-formation system, the law of improved payment system to stimulate the production for export and the export, and the law of the conclusion and fulfilment of economic contracts.

The resolution of the Grand National Assembly was also unanimously adopted regarding the state of the crimes in 1987, the conclusions resulting from the application of the decrees covering the amnesty of certain deeds and the diminishing of certain punishments, as well as the application of the law on wealth control.

In conclusion of the debates, the chairman of the Grand National Assembly announced that the bills on the last item on the agenda, as well as other papers that would be received at the GNA Bureau are to be examined by the specialized standing commissions and submitted to the legislative forum for debate within the current session, the time of the resumption of the proceedings in plenum being announced in due time.

Paper Welcomes Nicaragua Cease-Fire Accord

AU301132 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1049 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 30/3/1988—A commentary carried by the mass-circulation Romanian daily SCINTEIA welcomes the Nicaraguan cease-fire accord between the Sandinista government and the armed opposition, considering that this truce which may become permanent is a step towards setting in peace in Central America.

Noting that this accord has been concluded at a time when some thought the failure of Esquipulas II peace plan to be a fact, the daily reads: The conclusion of a substantive accord under the circumstances when the atmosphere in the zone seemed to suggest further postponements naturally has multiple, ample significances. First, the 60-day cease-fire halts the shedding of blood, which is the first, sine-qua-non step towards casting the foundations of the process of setting in real and lasting peace. The Sapoa event also exceeds the zonal framework, having a wider political significance. The understanding shows that in spite of the hot clashes in the northern frontier zone of the Republic of Nicaragua, clashes which preceded the negotiations and seemed to compromise them beyond repair, the value of political negotiations may still find confirmation and an accord may be reached. Obviously, they not only concern the conflict in Nicaragua, but also create conditions to relaunch the accord on global peace in Central America.

In spite of existing or foreseeable difficulties, stresses the Bucharest daily, the Sapoa accord resuscitates legitimate hopes of approaching and solving comprehensively all the conflicts in the zone, particularly as the progress scored in El Salvador and Guatemala towards resuming dialogue and attaining national reconciliation is less than modest for the time being.

The daily expresses the hope that the accord will boost the conflict extinguishing process. All the more so as it is on its implementation that the peoples in the zone pin their hopes of ending a suffering which has lasted for so many years and of focusing efforts on economic and social thriving.

Economy Experiences 'Adverse Economic Trends'
LD310809 Belgrade TANJUG in English
0012 GMT 30 Mar

[Text] Belgrade, March 31 (TANJUG)—The start of 1988 saw the continuing adverse economic trends, despite an increase in exports and the fact that the market supply was favourable, the government said in a report sent to the Federal Assembly.

The government noted that industrial production was down by 0.4 percent in January and February on the same period in 1987. Production in the branches of the economy relying on domestic raw materials rose—production of iron ore, sawn timber and non-metals rose by more than 10 percent, and the power industry also had a considerably higher output.

High inflation, which continued to rise despite the price-freeze, remains the key problem of the Yugoslav economy.

Krunic Views 'Attacks' on SFRY Army
LD302229 Belgrade TANJUG in English
2205 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Belgrade, March 30 (TANJUG)—League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) Presidency President Bosko Krunic this evening confirmed that an LCY conference will be held in May.

Krunic said on TV that the conference had been initially scheduled for March but was moved to May so that the LCY membership would have more time for a public debate of current problems of Yugoslav society.

Answering a number of questions posed by TV viewers, Krunic explained the reasons why the LCY Presidency recently set forth its stand on attacks on the Yugoslav Peoples' Army (JNA).

"Those attacks are not irresponsible or offensive behaviour of certain newspapers, but a thought-out policy which attacks the JNA and figures in it", Krunic said.

Speaking about constitutional changes, Krunic said they had so far been adopted with the agreement of all Yugoslav republics and provinces and that that would be the case now, without pressures of the majority over the minority or vice versa."

BORBA Attacks Slovene Press
AU301702 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
25 Mar 88 p 13

[Slobodan Ignjatovic commentary: "Lessons From Democracy"; reprinted from POLITIKA EKSPRES]

[Text] If you do not think as I do, you are a dogmatist, bureaucrat, Stalinist, centralist, unitarist....I am primarily a fighter for democracy and as such I do not allow anyone to think differently.

One gets the impression that this is how a section of the Slovene, primarily youth, press more or less behaves with regard to the unpleasant situation concerning articles on the Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] and the federal secretary for national defense. The Maribor weekly, 7D, describes the SFRY Presidency's action of discussing the attacks on the YPA as a "horrific example." Here is the view of the aforementioned weekly: "We can, with a clear conscience and without exaggeration, characterize the SFRY Presidency's reaction as a horrific example of pressure and the misuse of political power. The appraisal of the Federal Presidency that this campaign of slander against the Army is in contradiction to the Constitution and Law of the SFRY cannot be evaluated other than as unacceptable pressure on the judiciary."

There were similar reactions at the time of the LCY Central Committee Presidium report.

Although such an opinion does not need to be commented on, we will nevertheless ask at least some questions. How can this mass of stupidity against the YPA be evaluated differently than as a "campaign of slander?" Can the SFRY Presidency, which is bound by the Constitution to worry about the YPA, stay silent in the face of frequent and invented attacks on the YPA, particularly if the places where these attacks are appearing are refraining from prompt and decisive explanations and analyses? Therefore, Milan Kucan's words, albeit late (at the Ljubljana LC Conference), that there is no antagonism between Slovenes and the YPA and that there is no antiarmy feeling in Slovenia, were welcomed.

It is certain that individual opinions in individual articles in a section of the Slovene press cannot be equated with the attitude of the Slovene people, but it is also certain that it is unacceptable that anyone can attack what they want, when they want and to the extent they want in the name of so-called democracy. Democracy has never had anything to do with these attacks (indeed, perhaps it would be democratic to discuss this).

It is also certain that a handful of ill-reasoned articles cannot more significantly harm the standing of the YPA. However, the question is, how certain is it that all these and similar texts are exclusively the result of pure coincidence and imprudence. It is not that all this only amounts to a game according to the principle that children are learning in the pluralism of thought.

One should also take note that such attacks coincide with difficulties in the financing of the YPA (the YPA received less than half of its planned funding in the first 2 months because of an irregular inflow of funds in the federal budget).

The chronology of the attacks includes, among other things, tasteless accusations, a discrediting of the federal secretary for national defense, and finally the characterization of a different view of the YPA, such as that of the SFRY Presidency, as a "horrific example." This is truly an exemplary and edifying lesson in democratic behavior.

Slovene President Disagrees With Price Freeze

AU311132 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 27 Mar 88 p 6

[D. Damnjanovic report: "There Are No Differences in the Collective Thought of the LCY"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 26 Mar—Last night, Milan Kucan, president of the Slovene LC Central Committee Presidium, was the fifth guest of the so-called Evenings With Zlobec held at Zemono castle near Nova Gorica, and which are devoted to the theme of socialism. Ciril Zlobec, vice president of the Republican Conference of the Slovene SAWP, started the conversations on socialism. Answering a question on the main problems of socialism in the world, Milan Kucan said that all socialist societies are trying to overcome economic problems, which are also the focal point in the theses for the preparations of the LCY and the Slovene LC conferences.

Kucan said that, despite publicly being in favor of the market economy and market laws, it was obvious that the market was not understood by everybody in the same way. He also expressed his disagreement with the price freeze. He mentioned readymade clothing as a typical example of goods of different quality requiring different prices and said that the market should be allowed to promote good-quality products. According to Kucan, banking is another major problem that needs to be resolved. Banks should be better organized and should be allowed to decide for themselves where to invest, rather than to do it under pressures or according to political decisions. However, the transition from general to specialized business activities hinders the economy itself because many work organizations are not ready for changes yet—for the introduction of new technologies, the affirmation of knowledge, and the replacement of non-qualified cadre with experts. As a society, we, in Slovenia and in Yugoslavia, are satisfied with mediocrity, Kucan said.

Speaking on the LC and its role, Kucan said that the state should cease to be a party state and that the party should cease to be a state party. The LC must be the initiator of development, it must offer solutions to the crisis, it must reaffirm responsibilities. The LC cannot be a narcissistic organization and live on past achievements. Its declared vanguardism has caused it much damage. The LC should open itself, democratize itself. Kucan also pointed out that differences do not exist in the collective thought and direction of the LC, despite the fact that an illusion about them is being created. Differences exist only to the extent of discussing how some problems ought to be tackled in some areas. These problems are the consequence of traditional, new, and specific features of certain parts of the country. The Slovene LC Central Committee Presidium is trying to be consistent. Kucan did not reject the possibility that some assessments of the Slovene LC Central Committee Presidium were perhaps wrong, but expressed his belief that its direction is correct.

In his conversation with Milan Kucan, Ciril Zlobec said that most parts of Yugoslavia criticize the Slovene LC for deviating from the LCY's unified policy. It is being more and more often said that Kosovo is no longer our central political problem. An attempt is being made to create the impression that it is now Slovenia that is increasingly becoming a problem, Zlobec said.

These assessments are unacceptable and do not correspond to the real circumstances, Kucan answered.

DUGA Admits Mistake in Editorial Policy

AU301437 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 29 Mar 88 p 4

[Unattributed report: "History Has Confirmed Krcun's Role"]

[Text] The editorial board of the biweekly magazine DUGA today held a session because of the unpleasant consequences and marked politization surrounding the publication of the feuilleton "Memories of a UDBA Member" in its 6 February issue. The board repeated the critical assessment, which it had established immediately after the publication of this article 1 and 1/2 months ago, which was also confirmed at the meeting of the publishing council and the basic LC organization. All the bodies responsible for the DUGA editorial policy concluded that the publication of unacceptable views and statements—some of which refer to Slobodan Penezic Krcun—were made because of mistakes in the preparation and editing of the feuilleton (primarily as a result of time pressure). This is why this feuilleton was assessed as an editorial blunder and stopped. It was also concluded that concrete responsibilities should also be established.

Without trying to disparage the mistake, that participants in the editorial board meeting pointed out that humorist Miljenko Smoje drew extremely unfounded hypotheses and conclusions from several incorrectly formulated sentences in the feuilleton that resulted in the understandable protest by the public and especially by Krcun's war comrades. It was also pointed out that the DUGA editorial board and the author of the feuilleton were first to react to Smoje's strange kind of humor (6 March), that the feuilleton did not contain a basis for this kind of writing, and that the humorist should be responsible for this himself. On the basis of this, it was again stressed that "according to his reputation and documents, Krcun is above all an extremely positive, likable, and heroic figure who worked and lived in specific, crucial, and dramatic circumstances," and in accordance with them.

The participants in the discussion stressed that the author of the feuilleton did not intend to provide the full assessment of Krcun's role in the revolution, nor to reassess it, because this role had already been confirmed by history, and it cannot be disputed with one casual newspaper passage.

At the end of the DUGA editorial board's session it was specifically pointed out the politically damaging practice of one such professional mistake, to which the editorial board itself reacted first, becoming the cause for various interpretations and unacceptable politization, putting a question mark over the entire work of a paper, and serving as a motive for settling some other accounts.

Dizdarevic on Talks on Constitutional Change

AU301739 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 25 Mar 88 p 1

[E.M.M. report: "We Are Also Late in the Rush"]

[Text] Sarajevo, 24 Mar—The public debate on changes in the Constitutions of the SFRY and Bosnia-Hercegovina is characterized by great interest and response by the working people and citizens in all parts of the republic. Constitutional amendments were also discussed today at the session of the Republican Conference of the Bosnian SAWP, in which Raif Dizdarevic, vice president of the SFRY Presidency, took part.

The SFRY Presidency had taken the stand and is of the opinion that it is necessary to complete the work on constitutional changes in the envisaged period by 29 November. In this way the SFRY Assembly will be able to adopt, by the end of the year, all necessary laws (that are being simultaneously prepared with constitutional amendments), the resolution, and economic instruments for next year. In addition, the SFRY Assembly will be able to, on the basis of this, improve the political and economic situation in the country, Raif Dizdarevic said.

As far as the SFRY Presidency itself is concerned, Dizdarevic said that in accordance with its duties defined by the Constitution, the Presidency will, together with the republican and provincial presidencies, discuss all important new proposals made in public discussions. In addition, it will work on eliminating expressed disagreements on some amendments and outstanding questions before the draft amendments to the SFRY Constitution are established.

We should not exhaust ourselves on vague and unproductive discussions about constitutional changes, Dizdarevic said. But this is happening. We often spend more time on analyses and discussions and on establishing differences in views than on harmonizing different interests, on changing things, on the real development of what obviously needs to be changed and what we can improve in a creative way.

We have spent 7 years on analyzing, considering, and discussing changes in the socioeconomic development and the political and economic system. We have changed very little, the situation has become more serious, stagnation is still present, and the changes are becoming more and more necessary. Of course, Dizdarevic said, we are not saying that critical analyses and continuous and constructive discussions and changes are not needed. Of course they are needed, but not indefinite discussions that do not lead to necessary changes.

Now the idea is being spread, Dizdarevic continued, that we should not rush, that we have plenty of time, etc. It is obvious from what I have said that we are trying to speed up the process, but we are lagging behind. We do not have time, and time will work against us if we do not change things. If we accept the idea that we have time and that we should not rush, it means accepting the idea of living with the crisis whose consequences are becoming increasing serious.

Public discussions also contain some unacceptable elements. We need a democratic, tolerant discussion, a democratic-creative dialogue without prejudices, without underestimating anybody's views and suggestions, without disqualifications. However, some people favor democratic discussion only in words, but do not allow anybody to disagree with their views and their sometimes arbitrary assessments. What kind of democracy and democratic way of conducting discussions on constitutional changes is this, when on the one hand some people swear on democratic practice and democratic relations, while on the other hand they say that they would not deviate even an "inch" from the views of the area they represent? We are still facing or are at present involved in the discussions and search for the best solutions.

I must say that such approaches should be rejected because public discussions cannot be turned into somebody's dictate, into anybody's individual, group, or separate views. The value of all views will be assessed on the basis of what they offer to all of us in every part of the country, Dizdarevic said.

[The following passage appears boxed within the body of the item]

How Will the Non-Integrated Get On With the Integrated? [subhead]

Europe is experiencing a process of integration and the creation of a single market for the 12 and a joint market for the 18. At the same time, in our country some people are discussing, in connection with constitutional changes, whether or not we should retain and how to retain a unified market, Dizdarevic said. At the same time, he said, people talk about the need for joining the world and European process of integration faster. It should be clear

to everybody that Yugoslavia's cooperation with the integrated countries is only possible on the basis of integrational processes within our country.

Meeting on Security Situation in Kosovo Called

AU2301854 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Milisav Milic report]

[Text] A meeting of the local SAWP branch is being held in Obilic, near Pristina. Milenko Markovic, member of the Central Committee Presidium of the LC of Serbia, and Miroslav Markovic, member of the working group for Kosovo of the LC Central Committee of Serbia, as well as several communal officials are at the meeting. There are about 500 citizens in the Culture Hall and several hundred people from several places in Kosovo in front of the building.

There are two points on the agenda: constitutional changes and the political-security situation at Obilic. Bozidar Saranovic's speech on amendments to the SFRY Constitution has been frequently interrupted by demands to discuss the political-security situation and the consequences of the stoning of the Uskokovic family's house, which is why this meeting has been convoked.

Apart from Serbs and Montenegrins, who took part at almost all gatherings to date, there are a large number of Albanian nationals in the hall too.

Croatian Assembly Assesses Security Situation

AU281853 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 24 Mar 88 p 1

[G. Gojak and R. Vujatovic report: "The Crisis Is Food for an Opponent"]

[Text] Zagreb, 23 Mar—"Times of social crisis have always been accompanied by the increased activity of class enemies at home and their allies abroad. We have been warning against this tendency the last few years, and now we are of the opinion that hostile activity was more pronounced last year and at the beginning of this than ever before." Vilim Mulc, Croatian Republican secretary for internal affairs, expressed this assessment at today's joint session of all three chambers of the Croatian Assembly.

After delegates had heard details about the security situation of the republic at the joint session, they endorsed in separate chamber discussions the republic's budget, which will amount to 718 billion dinars this year. They also supported the draft law on the financing of the Brotherhood and Unity Highway. However, the assembly did not support the draft law on changes to the law on currency dealings, that is, the FEC proposal on the 3-month extension of Article 200b because, as it was said, the solutions had not been shown to have produced the expected results. It was therefore suggested that, in order to improve exports, the FEC should initiate the formulation of a new foreign exchange law, as experience had shown that it was futile to expect more serious changes in exports if firmer repairs to the system of currency dealings were not carried out.

Intensified Activities [subhead]

Assessing the security situation in the republic, Vilim Mulc, republican secretary for internal affairs, stressed that hostile groups have not only intensified their illegal and undermining activities, but—by exploiting the lack of alertness and opportunism of subjective forces—they have, to a great extent, made their political concepts public.

The opponents of self-management and, in some cases, even proven enemies have been given opportunities in some newspapers, at various forum discussions, and other gatherings to contest without any hesitation the LC's ideological and leading role. These opponents demand that it should exit from the stage of history, to offer their partnership, and to more or less advocate their anti-self-managing, anti-socialist, and anti-communist concepts, Mulc said.

All hostile forces centered their attacks on the LCY. They want to present it as a conspiratorial and dogmatic organization that won and monopolized all the power in society with Stalinist methods. They pronounced the LC as the main culprit for all anomalies and weaknesses and negated all the results achieved in the socialist development, particularly during the fighting stage of the revolution. This is followed by crude attacks on and various insinuations about the revolutionary work and importance of Comrades Tito, Kardelj, Bakaric, and other prominent people from our revolution. Mistrust is being continuously fostered in the leaderships at all levels to undermine their reputation and separate them from the people.

Crude Attacks on Yugoslav People's Army [subhead]

Mulc noted the recent presence of coordinated and crude attacks on the Yugoslav People's Army and the concept of the all people's defense as a whole, and on the security and judicial organs. An attempt is being made to undermine their reputation by criticism in the press, by sending petitions, and by other ways, and to create an impression of unconstitutional and illegal work in these institutions of the political system.

The main protagonists of Croatian nationalism have been intensively following the increased activity of the bourgeois right in other parts of Yugoslavia and looking for opportunities to, through their help, come out of their long political isolation. With this in mind, Mulc said, the most prominent individuals in the main core of the mass movement, as well as some leaders of the faction of the leadership of that time, have been preparing their work, interviews, and pamphlets. They have the

intention of presenting their views on the situation in society and relations in the country through their publication. In this way, they will reaffirm their political platform and create preconditions for a further escalation of these activities. Some of these texts published in some newspapers outside this republic are an expression of this orientation that is not even concealed in some texts.

This group advocates the rehabilitation of the creators of the well-known Declaration on Language and a revival of the work of the Croatian Cultural Center. It advocates collusion and supports contacts with those individuals from the Roman Catholic Church who are often on the same track.

Mulc goes on to say that the thesis on the unequal position of the Serbian people in the SFRY is becoming increasingly obvious and, on this basis, there is an attempt to make the position of Serbs in Croatia problematic. In this situation, they are linking up with leading Serb nationalists in the country and clero-nationalists from the ranks of the Serbian Orthodox Church, which they regard as the sole protector of Serbs, Vilim Mulc, Croatian republican secretary for internal affairs, said, among other things.

Man Sentenced for Espionage in Switzerland

LD291923 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1844 GMT 29 Mar 88

[Text] Lugano, March 29 (TANJUG)—Despite the lack of material evidence and witnesses, a court in Lugano today sentenced Yugoslav citizen Dragisa Stepanovic to a 12-month suspended prison term and banned him from entering Switzerland in the next 10 years. The court said that Stepanovic was engaged in "intelligence activity" and thus "violated individual freedoms guaranteed on Switzerland's territory, for which no evidence is required." Stepanovic will have to leave Switzerland this evening, but he plans to appeal against the sentence."

Stepanovic was on trial for allegedly spying on his compatriots in Switzerland in the period between 1978 and 1986 when he returned to Yugoslavia from temporary work in Switzerland. It is also claimed that he "infiltrated" circles of Yugoslav citizens in Bern and then informed Yugoslavia's diplomatic and consular representatives in Bern about political opinions and private relations among Yugoslavs in Switzerland, which is punishable under the Swiss Criminal Code.

The prosecution took it as an aggravating circumstance that Stepanovic worked as manager of the Yugoslav Club and that he was also active in the Alliance of Christian Trade Unions, where he had contacts with Yugoslav Citizens working in Switzerland in his official capacity.

Refuting the charges, the defence cited the lack of evidence. It was noted that the prosecution failed to produce any witnesses or material evidence, as well as that Stepanovic had never been convicted. The defence claimed that the charge of political espionage was groundless and called for Stepanovic's acquittal.

As is known, in its note of protest handed to the Swiss ambassador in Belgrade, the Yugoslav Government also called for Stepanovic's acquittal.

Stepanovic spent here 12 years as an honest worker. He was widely known and respected as such as confirmed by Swiss citizens at today's hearing.

This is not the first time that a Yugoslav citizen active in clubs and associations set up according to Swiss rules and independently constituted is being barassed by police. This is contrary to all internationally accepted norms concerning the organization and assembly of migrant workers and is also damaging the 80 Yugoslav clubs and associations currently operating in Switzerland.

This practice certainly does not contribute to friendship between Swiss and Yugoslav citizens and also helps create a climate of fear and uncertainty because Stepanovic was arrested on entering Switzerland and is now banned from entering the country on the basis of a single anonymous letter.

At the same time, however, a group of Yugoslav citizens of Albanian nationality, who were detained last November, as stated by police, after being found in the possession of firearms and material used to forge documents—which was all intended for use in actions of violence—was released later that same day.

Dolanc Receives FRG Parliamentarians

LD291512 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1245 GMT 29 Mar 88

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Mar (TANJUG)—Stane Dolanc, member of the SFRY Presidency, today received in the Palace of the Federation, Hans Peter Repnik, CDE member of the FRG parliament and head of the parliamentary group for relations with the SFRY, who is in our country as a guest of the SAWPY Federal Conference.

During a cordial and friendly conversation, they discussed the importance of cooperation between the parliaments of the two countries in the promotion of overall relations between Yugoslavia and the Federal Republic of Germany. The conversation was attended by Hansjoerg Eiff. [FRG ambassador to the SFRY]

Loncar Receives Omani Foreign Minister

LD291645 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1536 GMT 29 Mar 88

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Mar (TANJUG)—Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, today held talks with Yusuf ibn al-Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign afairs of the Sultanate of Oman, who is on a short

visit to Yugoslavia at the invitation of the federal secretary. During the talks, which took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, some questions of bilateral cooperation and possibilities for its further promotion were discussed. It was stated that mutual readiness and considerable possibilities exist for such promotion.

Views were also exchanged on some topical international problems, and especially about the Iraq-Iran war, in view of the latest deterioration in the situation. Mutual concern was expressed about this situation, as well as the need to make further efforts, especially at the United Nations, in order to create conditions for the application of Resolution 598 and the attainment of a lasting and just peace. The situation in the Middle East was also discussed. It was emphasized that convening an international conference on the Middle East represents the most realistic way of achieving a just solution of the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian question.

The forthcoming activities of the nonaligned countries were particularly discussed. It was emphasized that the methods of activity of the movement of nonaligned countries should be promoted in keeping with the topical situation in the world and the needs of the nonaligned countries.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Pays Official Visit

Arrives in Belgrade

LD291405 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1307 GMT 29 Mar 88

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Mar (TANJUG)—Datuk Abu Hassan bin Omar, Malaysian foreign minister, who is leading the Malaysian delegation at the third session of the Yugoslav-Malaysian mixed commission for economic and technical cooperation and trade, has arrived in Belgrade.

Comrade Nevenka Neralic-Milivojevic, a member of the FEC, is leading the Yugoslav delegation.

Received by Mikulic

LD302020 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1533 GMT 30 Mar 88

[Text] Belgrade, 30 Mar (TANJUG)—Branko Mikulic, president of the FEC, today at the Palace of the Federation in Belgrade received Malaysian Foreign Minister Abu Hassan bin Omar, who leads the Malaysian delegation at the third session of the mixed committee for economic and technical cooperation and trade.

Mikulic and Omar expressed the view that political cooperation between Yugoslavia and Malaysia is very good, while economic cooperation is progressing. They noted that there are considerable possibilities for further promotion of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. They emphasized the interest of the two countries in balancing trade at a higher level, in developing higher forms of cooperation, and in joint appearances on the third markets.

The president of the FEC conveyed the readiness of our work organizations to participate in the realization of Malaysian investment projects and in the consignment of Malaysian goods to Yugoslavia. Mutual interest was also expressed in the promotion of mutual air and maritime traffic.

Mikulic and Omar expressed the view that greater and more dynamic cooperation is necessary between the nonaligned countries in resolving topical political and especially economic problems in the world.

They emphasized that the South-South Commission is of special importance for the strengthening of cooperation between the developing countries and for the opening of a constructive North-South dialogue. They especially stressed that the developing countries should strengthen mutual cooperation in keeping with the policy of reliance on their own forces to eliminate the danger of economic dependence and technological colonialism.

Nevenka Neralic-Milivojevic, member of the FEC and cochairman of the Yugoslav part of the mixed committee, also took part in the talks.

Received by Loncar

LD292021 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1841 GMT 29 Mar 88

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Mar (TANJUG)—Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for Foreign Affairs, today met Abu Hassan bin Omar, foreign minister of Malaysia, who is heading a Malaysian delegation at the third session of the mixed committee for economic-technical trade cooperation. During the meeting a broad exchange of views was conducted on topical questions of international relations, especially the current activities of the Nonaligned Movement, in which Yugoslavia and Malaysia cooperate closely, the hotbeds of crisis in Asia, as well as international economic relations and the situation in developing countries.

Federal Secretary Budimir Loncar and Foreign Minister Abu Hassan bin Omar assessed as very positive the development so far of overall bilateral relations between the two friendly nonaligned countries. They pointed to an upward trend in cooperation over recent years and expressed the expectation that the present session of the mixed committee will contribute to the further intensification and consolidation of economic cooperation, especially in its higher forms.

Castro Receives Zagreb Firm Delegation

AU301557 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 29 Mar 88 p 6

[Text] Cuba's President Fidel Castro received the INA basic associated labor organization delegation led by Aleksandar Broz, vice chairman of the managing board. In the talks, Castro pointed out that the Yugoslav work organizations that work and export equipment to Cuba have shown notable results. He expressed special interest in joint ventures in oil and gas exploration and production as well as in tourism.

Economic Agreement With Philippines Signed

LD281739 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1346 GMT 28 Mar 88

[Text] Belgrade, 28 Mar (TANJUG)—An agreement was signed in Belgrade today on establishing a mixed commission for economic and scientific-technical cooperation between Yugoslavia and the Philippines. The agreement was signed on behalf of the FEC, by Nenad Krekic, federal secretary for foreign trade, and by Jose Concepcion, Filipino secretary of trade and industry, on behalf of the Government of the Philippines.